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Security Council upgrades PLO status

UNITED NATIONS, Jan 13. (AP) The PLO won a diplomatic victory on Wednesday when the Security Council granted it the right to speak directly to the council as "Palestine," on the same basis as any UN member nation.

The United States was the only nation to vote against the move. Britain, Canada and France abstained. The Soviet Union, China, Finland, Brazil, Colombia, Malaysia, Algeria, Ethiopia, Nepal, Senegal and Yugoslavia voted in favour.

In the past, the PLO had to ask another nation to sponsor its right to speak to the council. Organisations must be invited to speak, but member states may directly ask to address the council.

The Palestinian delegates will be addressed as Palestine, as they are in the General Assembly, rather than under their former title as the observer mission of the PLO.

Victory

The PLO's diplomatic victory came as it pursued the right to speak before the council on the US Navy's downing of two Libyan military planes last week.

Acceptance of the PLO's bid to address the council directly gave symbolic weight to its claim to represent a nation, but not formal recognition. The Security Council would have to vote to formally admit Palestine as a member state.

On simple procedural matters such as Wednesday's, the five permanent council members do not have veto power.

In Kuala Lumpur, Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar said yesterday that Malaysia had decided to raise the status of the PLO mission to the embassy level.

The Asian country, which has a large Muslim population, thus became the 11th nation to officially upgrade PLO office to an embassy.

Goodwill gesture towards Iran

Iraq to free hundreds of POWs

BAGHDAD, Jan 13, (Agencies) President Saddam Hussein has said Iraq will unilaterally release hundreds of Iranian prisoners of war in response to an appeal by Muslim scholars meeting in Baghdad.

Meanwhile, the Iranian envoy at the United Nations said the secretary-general will take fresh steps to break Gulf peace talks deadlock.

Saddam, in a speech carried on state-run television, said Iraq will release the Iranian POWs after several Muslim scholars appealed to him to show a new sign of goodwill towards Iran.

He said he would free the same number of Iranians as those who had called for their freedom. But he did not say exactly how many nor did he specify a date for their release.

Accused

Iran and Iraq suspended in November a repatriation operation of disabled POWs three days after it started, accusing each other of not sticking to an agreement signed by both in Geneva on Nov 11.

According to the agreement the repatriation of registered prisoners by the International Committee of the Red Cross was to be completed before the end of 1988.

The Iraqi leader was addressing a number of Islamic clergymen who are holding a conference in Baghdad to discuss a number of issues under the slogan "Peace and Islam".

Saddam again accused Iran of killing and maiming bodies of Iraqi POWs during the eight-year Gulf war, halted by a ceasefire sponsored by the United Nations in August.

He said many bodies of Iraqi soldiers were found unburied in recaptured areas years after being killed in battles with the Iranian troops.

"Is this Islamic... or an act of malice and hatred to Arabs and Islam?" Saddam commented to the 300 scholars.

The Islamic conference, organised by the Iraqi Ministry of Awqaf and Religious Affairs, is expected to discuss means of curbing pro-Iranian fundamentalist movements in the Islamic world.

Saddam said Iraqi Army commanders were very unhappy when Iraq agreed in July to accept the UN Security Council Resolution 598 aimed at ending the war.

Defend

He said some were displeased because the Iranian Army was in retreat while others felt that tens of thousands of Iraqis had died for nothing.

Nevertheless, he said, Iraq stopped the war and withdrew its Army to allow Tehran to reassess its behaviour.

Saddam revealed yesterday that a North Yemeni brigade fought with Iraqi troops against Iran.

Baghdad Radio said Saddam decorated North Yemeni members of the Brigade of Arabism and 53 of its soldiers killed in battle with one of Iraq's highest awards.

It quoted Saddam as telling the brigade that its members fought to defend Iraq because they felt it was their national duty to defend Arab land threatened by non-Arab Iran.

Saddam also praised Arab countries which gave financial support to Baghdad during the war and thanked other Arab states which supported Iraq politically.

He said some Arab states granted Iraq facilities "on their territory, in their ports and through communications".

Tehran's UN envoy, Mohammad Jafar Mahallati told the Shura-based daily newspaper Khabar Joonob that UN chief Javier Perez de Cuellar would act to get the Resolution 598 implemented.

The Iranian news agency IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Mahallati as saying that Perez de Cuellar would take his initiative "in the coming days" but gave no other details.

"The UN Security Council as a first hand body responsible for 598's enforcement, cannot and should not remain indifferent towards Iraq's delay to comply with the resolution."

(Continued on Page 2)

Libya returns body of American airman

ROME, Jan 13, (Reuters): The body of a US airman killed during a 1986 bombing raid on Libya arrived under Vatican protection in Italy today, in what appeared to be a Libyan gesture to ease tension with Washington.

A Libyan military plane, touched down at Rome's Ciampino military airport at 3.50 pm. (1450 GMT), and was met by two Vatican representatives and Italian officials.

The body, believed to be that of Captain Paul Lawrence, 31, of San Francisco, was handed over to the Vatican's Apostolic Vicar-General of Tripoli, Bishop Giovanni Martinelli, at a ceremony in the bombed former home of Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi earlier today.

Lawrence was weapons officer in an F-111 bomber shot down over Tripoli during the raid in which Khaddafi's house was hit and his 18-month-old adopted daughter was killed.

Martinelli was also given Lawrence's personal possessions — 24 rounds of ammunition, a red knife, a silver ring, a cigarette lighter, \$59 and \$10, a Libyan official said.

The Libyan news agency JANA said Libya was returning the body as a "humanitarian initiative". The Vatican said it had agreed to act as intermediary for "humanitarian reasons and out of concern for the pilot's family".

Italian Foreign Ministry officials said the body would be taken to a forensic centre in Rome for identification.

Lorence's pilot, Captain Fernando Ribas-Dominici, 33, from Puerto Rico, was also killed when the F-111 was shot.

Libyan authorities were keen to publicise their gesture in handing back the body.

Worsened

Reporters for the US television networks NBC and CNN said they were telephoned by the Libyan embassy in Rome last evening and urged to send film crews to Tripoli to record the event.

American-Libyan relations worsened further last week when two US Navy jets from the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy shot down two Libyan MIGs over the Mediterranean.

(Continued on Page 2)

Resolution on Libya blocked

Rare triple veto

UNITED NATIONS, Jan 13, (Reuters): The United States, Britain and France, in a rare triple veto, blocked a Security Council resolution to deplore the shooting down of two Libyan jets by US Navy fighters.

Canada also voted against the resolution, which would have called on Washington to suspend military manoeuvres off the Libyan coast. Brazil and Finland abstained and the remaining nine members voted for the text,

offered by the non-aligned states. The non-aligned had sought a strong condemnation of the United States but opposition from some Security Council members forced several modifications to soften the language in the original text.

A statement issued by Arab League foreign ministers in Tunis after an emergency meeting condemned the downing of the Libyan planes.

Doubts about earthquake survivors

MOSCOW, Jan 13, (Reuters): The Soviet government newspaper Izvestia today cast doubts on reports that six people had been found buried alive in the devastated city of Leninakan 35 days after the Armenian earthquake.

Soviet television last night showed an interview with 50-year-old electrician Aikaz Akopyan who, speaking from the hospital bed, told journalists he and five companions had been pulled out of an apartment block basement the previous day.

Apart

But apart from Akopyan, none of the other "survivors" had been traced, Izvestia said, despite inquiries at all hospitals between Leninakan and the Armenian capital, Yerevan.

"We journalists find ourselves in a difficult situation. The experience of past days has taught us that there is a great, very great wish for a miracle," Izvestia said.

The authors of the article said they visited the Leninakan street where the apartment block was located on the day the six were said to have been pulled out.

"It was two in the afternoon and the six were found in the morning. Where had they gone? Surely someone would have noticed them? Who saved them, after all?" they inquired, adding that local officials knew nothing about the alleged incident.

Kuwait-Iraq border talks

PARIS, Jan 13, (KUNA): Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz was quoted here today as saying that Iraq is having talks with Kuwait on demarcation of international borders.

In an interview with Le Figaro newspaper Aziz said the border issue will be settled soon, but could not say when.



Reagan talks with photographers following his farewell address. (Reuters wirephoto)

US is respected again, says Reagan

WASHINGTON, Jan 13, (Reuters): President Reagan, in his farewell address to the nation, said he brought US economic recovery, helped forge US-Soviet co-operation and produced a "great rediscovery" of national values and confidence.

"All in all, not bad. Not bad at all," Reagan told Americans in an ad-libbed conclusion. "So goodbye, God bless you and God bless the United States of America."

Reagan, at 77 the oldest US President, turns the office over to President-elect George Bush, his vice-president, on Jan 20.

He did not use the address to give final advice to the country, such as George Washington's warning against entangling alliances with Europe or Dwight Eisenhower's valedictory warning of the danger of an untrained military-industrial complex.

Regrets

Instead, Reagan summed up his eight-year presidency.

He said his greatest disappointment was the US budget deficit that ranged up to \$200 billion during his presidency though it has dropped below \$150 billion.

"I've been asked if I have any regrets. Well, I do. The deficit is

one," he said.

But he spent most of the rest of the farewell address boasting of achievement.

"They called it the Reagan revolution, and I'll accept that, but for me it always seemed like the great rediscovery: a rediscovery of our values and our common sense," Reagan said.

"The way I see it, there were two great triumphs, two things that I'm proudest of," he said later.

"One is the economic recovery, in which the people of America created — and filled — 19 million new jobs. The other is the recovery of our morale: America is respected again in the world, and looked to for leadership."

Honoured

Reagan, flanked by new American weapons of war, was honoured yesterday in an elaborate farewell ceremony by the military that benefitted from his record \$2.5-trillion defence buildup.

A Marine band played martial music as Reagan, marching in review of honour guards representing the Army, Air Force, Marines, Navy and Coast Guard in a huge hangar at Andrews Air Force base on the outskirts of Washington.

Benazir had talks with Fahd on Afghan issue

ISLAMABAD, Jan 13, (AP): Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto returned yesterday from a Muslim pilgrimage and talks with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia.

Benazir told reporters at Islamabad airport that she and the Saudi monarch had an "extended" discussion on the Afghanistan situation, as well as Palestine, the Iran-Iraq war and Lebanon.

"We are watching what form of government is offered by the mujahedeen (rebels) before making an assessment of the Afghan problem," the Pakistani leader said. "It's for the Afghans to decide... because they're the ones fighting."

Benazir met King Fahd in the eastern city of Dammam on Wednesday.

Riyadh television showed Benazir, wearing a black cloak and white headscarf, sitting next to the monarch.

Benazir said: "Pakistan thinks it will be very good if a political rather than a military solution in Afghanistan is found."

She said she expected Moscow to complete the withdrawal of its troops in Afghanistan by the Feb 15 deadline set in UN-mediated accords signed in Geneva last year.

The insurgents, based in Pakistan, have broken off last-minute direct talks with the Soviets to protest Kremlin's insistence that some Marxists remain in a post-war administration.

Peace in neighbouring Afghanistan would ease Pakistan of some three million war refugees, and Iran of another two million.

Pakistani newspapers have reported that Benazir's government was nudging the mujahedeen back to the bargaining table to head off bloodshed after the Soviets leave.

Hoss welcomes Arab League move on Lebanon

BEIRUT, Jan 13, (Agencies): Lebanon's Muslim prime minister said today his cabinet would do all it could to help an Arab League committee assigned to solve the country's constitutional crisis.

Selim Al Hoss was commenting on the Arab League decision in Tunis yesterday for the foreign ministers of Kuwait, Algeria, Jordan, Sudan, Tunisia and the UAE to contact rival Lebanese factions.

Struggling

The Arab League ministerial committee will be headed by Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

"We hope the new Arab initiative succeeds in its mission... and reaches positive results which will help us end the crisis," said Hoss, a Sunni Muslim who heads Lebanon's Syrian-backed government.

Lebanon has had no president, no speaker of Parliament and two rival governments since Amin Gemayel ended his six-year term as head of state last September. His Army is also divided.

A military cabinet headed by Christian Army commander Michel Aoun has been struggling for power with the Hoss government in Lebanon's deepest political crisis since independence in 1941.

The Arab League committee held its first meeting in Tunis last night.

Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz

Arafat ready to compromise on form of Palestinian state

LONDON, Jan 13, (Agencies): PLO leader Yasser Arafat indicated he would be prepared to compromise on the form of Palestinian state his people are fighting for, the Times reported today.

In an interview in Tunis on Wednesday, the head of the PLO was asked if he stood by PLO demands for a multi-party democratic state consisting of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and possessing an army as long as Israel retained armed forces.

Arafat replied he wished to enter negotiations and that "negotiations mean compromise."

Objectives

"At the end you will find a compromise. We are looking to arrive at a conclusion. So that means compromise."

"We will enter with objectives, but ready to accept compromises," he said in the interview with Gerald Kaufman, "shadow" foreign secretary for Britain's opposition Labour Party.

Arafat ruled out all negotiations other than an international conference based on United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338. He said all five permanent members of the UN Security Council should be involved and not just the two superpowers.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said on Tuesday the United Nations or the super-

powers could sponsor negotiations provided they refrained from involvement in the substance.

Arafat ruled out local negotiations with the Israelis in the occupied territories on issues more limited than the scope of an international conference, even with officials accredited by him.

Shamir was reported in Abu Dhabi yesterday as proposing a new peace plan with the Palestinians.

Autonomy

The plan reduced the proposed autonomy for the Palestinians from five years as stated by the Camp David peace accords to three years after which talks are conducted on the next phase of the peacemaking process in the Middle East, the state-run newspaper Al Ittihad said.

"A draft peace proposal was presented by Shamir to US Secretary of State George Shultz and to his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze last Sunday in Paris," Al Ittihad said in the report which it attributed to an unidentified source in Washington that it described as "close to the US administration."

According to the paper, the plan also proposed "a Middle East peace conference hosted by the superpowers" and talks between Israel and "Palestinians to be elected in the occupied

(Continued on Page 2)

Jammu under curfew after Sikh-Hindu clashes

SRINAGAR, Jan 13, (Agencies): Soldiers today patrolled Jammu with orders to shoot on sight anybody defying a curfew declared after clashes in the northern city between thousands of Sikhs and Hindus left more than 100 people injured, police said.

Jammu's deputy Inspector General of Police, S.S. Ali, said the violence in the winter capital of Jammu and Kashmir state, 315 miles (510 km) northwest of New Delhi, sparked during a procession by about 6,000 Sikhs marking the birthday of a Sikh saint.

He reported the marchers chanted slogans against Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and his ruling Congress (I) Party for last week's executions of two Sikhs condemned for the 1984 slaying of Rajiv's mother and predecessor, Indira Gandhi.

Ali said the participants carried photographs of the two Sikhs, Kehar Singh and Satwant Singh, whose deaths have been marked by at least 15 retaliatory killings by extremists fighting to create a Sikh nation in northern Punjab state.

Hurled

The procession entered Jammu's Hindu-owned main bazaar and was confronted by some 2,000 members of the Shiv Sena, a Hindu fundamentalist group which wants the central government to take stern measures against the Sikh separatists, he said.

Ali reported the two groups hurled rocks and beat each other with sticks in the spontaneous clash, during which several shops and vehicles were set ablaze. At least 40 shops and two dozen vehicles were set ablaze, a government spokesman said.

Police eventually dispersed the

warring factions by staging numerous baton charges, unleashing tear gas shells and firing live bullets over the heads of the Sikhs and Hindus.

Ali said more than 100 people from both communities were injured, of whom about 50 had been hospitalised.

The city magistrate clamped a curfew on Jammu and authorities deployed the Army with orders to shoot on sight anybody breaking the regulation.

In Amritsar, police killed a Sikh militant sought for hanging four Hindu villagers to avenge the execution of Satwant and Kehar.

Hanged

Punjab police chief K.P.S. Gill told reporters Avtar Singh was one of the four separatists killed when a band tried to ambush a paramilitary police patrol yesterday.

He was believed to be one of eight Sikhs who hanged four Hindu brothers in a village near Amritsar on Wednesday night.

Police superintendent Govind Ram said five Sikhs raided the village of Bhujawali, 67 kilometres (42 miles) north of Amritsar on Wednesday and kidnapped the village headman, Rampal Sharma, and his three brothers.

The bodies of the four men were found hanging from trees outside the village yesterday morning, Ram said.

The band left a note saying the hangings were in revenge for the executions of Satwant and Kehar.

It was the first known hanging by separatists fighting for an independent Sikh Khalistan. Police later reported a second hanging, of a liquor shop employee near Jullundur.

extended," said Goulding, assistant secretary-general for political affairs.

Meanwhile, a car bomb exploded in a suburban district controlled by the pro-Iranian Hezbollah, in South Beirut today and police said at least six people were killed and 14 wounded.

The blast occurred in Bir Al Abed neighbourhood, minutes after thousands of Hezbollah supporters staged a massive demonstration against the rival Shiite Muslim mainstream Amal militia, according to police.

They said the bomb-laden car was a dark blue Mercedes-Benz, rigged with 100 kilograms (220 yards) of TNT. It carried a crater two and a half metres (2.5 yards) in diameter and 130 centimetres (51 inches) deep.

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○ جنوں میں ہندو سکھ
○ فسادات پنجاب میں جاری
○ ہندوؤں کو انتہا پسندی دینی گئی
○ امریکہ نے لیبیا کے قریب
○ جنگی مشینیں بند کر دیں
○ شیخ صباح کی سربراہی میں
○ عرب لیگ کی وزارت کی کمیٹی کا
○ قیام
○ سری لنکا میں سیکڑوں
○ سیاسی اسیروں کو رہا دیے گئے
○ پاکستان کرکٹ ٹیم دبی میں
○ دوسرے نمبر پر ہے عمران
○ خاں

WEATHER

FAIR weather with light variable to light to moderate westerly wind
State of sea: slight
High water: 4.00 am, 5.00 pm
Low water: 10.00 am, 10.30 pm
Sunrise: 6.44 am
Sunset: 5.10 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 17°C 63°F
Abu Dhabi: 16°C 61°F
Falkland: 15°C 59°F
Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 5°C 41°F
Abu Dhabi: 7°C 45°F
Falkland: 7°C 46°F
Maximum temperatures expected:
Kuwait: 18°C 64°F
Abu Dhabi: 17°C 63°F
Falkland: 16°C 61°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 76 per cent
Abu Dhabi: 53 per cent
Falkland: 56 per cent

Nancy frightened by impeachment idea

WASHINGTON, Jan 13, (AP): First Lady Nancy Reagan says in an interview to be broadcast on Sunday she found it frightening when some people suggested the possibility that President Reagan might be impeached because of the Iran-Contra crisis.

Asked by Mike Wallace of the CBS network television programme "60 minutes" if she had worried about the possibility of impeachment, Mrs Reagan said, "No, well, no. I — it never entered my mind until somebody said it on television, and then that word is a frightening word."

"It's like — it's like having somebody say cancer to you. You know, you — you... you freeze."

Mrs Reagan did not say who it was she heard discuss the possibility of impeachment. No impeachment moves were made against the President, who has denied swapping arms to Iran for hostages or knowing of the diversion of funds from the sales to help Contra rebels in Nicaragua in what has become known as the Iran-Contra scandal.

Mrs Reagan also said in the interview she believes John Poindecker, who lost his job as the President's National Security Adviser because of the Iran-Contra affair, "should have told Ronnie" about the diversion of profits to the Contras.

Asked if she disagreed with her husband about his description of Poindecker aide Lient Col Oliver North as a national hero, the First Lady replied, "sometimes we disagree."

Wallace's interview with Mrs Reagan, and a separate interview with the President, will be broadcast in the United States at 0001 GMT on Monday.

The President repeated his position on the Iran-Contra affair, saying, "We were never trading arms for hostages," and, "I still, in spite of all the Congressional inquiry, I don't have the answers to some questions."

When asked about leaving the White House, Mrs Reagan said she will miss such amenities as travel on Air Force One — the president's personal jet.

"You bet I'm going to miss Air Force One, from what I hear of all my friends about airplanes and airports and so on," she said. She said she will also miss the fact that in the White House, "if you want a plumber, you've got a plumber, you know."

'Forgo kiss and tell books'

Bush tells cabinet to think big

WASHINGTON, Jan 13, (Reuters): President-elect Bush says the cabinet he has nominated will operate under these marching orders: Think big, challenge the system, maintain high ethical standards and forego "kiss and tell" books.

With his inauguration just a week away, Bush today was headed for the Florida Keys and a final week-end of fishing free from the cares of governing.

On the eve of his departure, however, Bush outlined the sort of behaviour he expects from his official family in the new White House.

Challenge
"I'm going to tell them to think big. I'm going to tell them to challenge the system," Bush said

before huddling with his cabinet, which met as a group for the first time yesterday.

He also said he would stress the importance of high ethical standards and, referring to several embarrassing books written by former members of the Reagan administration, added: "I'm going to tell them I don't like kiss-and-tell books."

President Reagan has been embarrassed and angered at times in recent years by inside accounts of life at the White House by ex-subordinates and hurt politically by the ethical misdeeds of some.

Bush also ordered his cabinet to maintain good relations with Congress, which is controlled by opposition Democrats.

"We're going to have some fights with Congress, but we're not going to approach it as though we're dealing with the enemy, whatever party they're from," he said.

Bush met his cabinet after filling its last two vacancies, naming James Watkins to be energy secretary and William Bennett to lead the government's war on drugs.

Bennett
Watkins, who will have to wrestle with cleaning up and rebuilding the country's ageing nuclear weapons production facilities, is a retired admiral who headed the Navy for a time and later chaired a presidential commission on AIDS.
Bennett, who served as

Reagan's education secretary from 1983 until last summer, is an outspoken conservative.

Bush said his latest nominees would be among "the most talented, diverse and energetic group of people to serve at the cabinet table."

Although the group is predominantly white male, two Hispanics, one woman and one black are included among the 14 cabinet secretaries. Bush also named a woman to the cabinet level position of trade representative.

The group is heavily laden with veterans of the Reagan administration. Six of the 14 cabinet secretaries held cabinet or cabinet-level posts under Reagan.

Reagan offered \$200,000 a year job

LOS ANGELES, Jan 13, (Reuters): President Reagan, who steps down as President in eight days, was offered his old job back yesterday — up to \$200,000 a year as a radio commentator.

The general manager of a Los Angeles radio station, Norm Epstein, said he had sent Reagan, who was once a sports commentator in Des Moines, Iowa, a letter offering him \$100,000 a year to broadcast a one-hour sports talk show, five days a week, from his new Los Angeles home.

"We feel you will add something unique to radio sports in the Los Angeles market," Epstein, of station KJAC, said in his letter.

Bob Moore, general manager of another Los Angeles radio station, KRLA, offered to double the salary offer.

Shevardnadze arrives in Kabul

ISLAMABAD, Jan 13, (Reuters): Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze arrived in the Afghan capital today, official Radio Kabul said, a month before Moscow is due to complete the withdrawal of its troops from the country.

The radio report, monitored in the Pakistani capital Islamabad, said Shevardnadze was met at the airport by government officials. It gave no further details of the previously unannounced visit.

NAM recognizes Kadoumi as envoy of Palestine

NICOSIA, Jan 13, (AP): Farouk Kadoumi was recognized as the representative of the state of Palestine today at the opening of a conference of Non-Aligned Movement foreign ministers called to discuss modernising the 101-member organisation.

Kadoumi, head of the political department of the PLO told the meeting that while streamlining its operations, the movement cannot lose sight of its goal of "ending colonialism."

Kadoumi, considered the PLO's foreign minister, said that he was attending the conference for the "specific subject" of making it more effective.

It was the first high-level meeting of the organisation since the Palestine National Council declared an independent Palestinian state in November and delegates gave him a warm welcome.

Cypriot Foreign Minister George Iacovou descended from the podium to hug Kadoumi.

Around 90 countries, many of them from the Non-Aligned Movement, have recognised Palestine, and Kadoumi thanked them for their support.

He expressed "gratitude for the role of the Non-Aligned Movement in strengthening the militancy of our Palestine people" in trying to establish a state in territory occupied by Israel.

While in Cyprus, the PLO representative was expected to set a date for PLO chairman Yasser Arafat to accept an invitation from Cypriot President George Vassiliou for an official visit.

Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyari of Zimbabwe read a message from President Robert Mugabe, current head of the Non-Aligned Movement, calling for a permanent secretariat for the organisation.

In an era of rapid communication and rapid changes in international relations, Mugabe's statement said, "a permanent secretariat is needed to service the work of the chairman and the committees."

Iacovou, in his opening address, said the conference was designed to "make suggestions as to how the movement will become more effective and more dynamic."

Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao of India said the movement "is at a crossroads. One road leads to irrelevance, the other to the role it has played in contributing new ideas to international problems."

Budimir Loncar, Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia, the next head of the movement, said, "Our task here is to give it new meaning and transform its actions."

The foreign ministers of Cuba and Congo also spoke, stressing that modernisation of the movement should not overlook the need to solve pressing economic problems facing the world's poorer countries.

Chapman tops Grammys with six nominations

BEVERLY HILLS, California, Jan 13, (UPI): Folk-rock singer Tracy Chapman topped the list of nominees for the 31st annual Grammy awards announced yesterday with six nominations.

Pop vocalist Bobby McFerrin came in second with five nominations, including one for best pop male vocalist, record and song of the year for the upbeat "Don't Worry, Be Happy," and album of the year for "Simple Pleasures."

Chapman also was nominated in record and song of the year for the single "Fast Car" and album of the year for the self-titled "Tracy Chapman."

The rock newcomer, a critic's favourite, also earned nominations for best new artist, best contemporary folk recording and best pop vocal performance by a female.

McFerrin also was nominated for best male jazz vocal performance for the song "Brothers" on Rob Wasserman's album "Duets."

Anita Baker had four nominations, including record and song of the year, best rhythm and blues song and best rhythm and blues female vocalist for the single "Giving You the Best That I Got."

Pop singer George Strait, who had been considered the head-on favourite for nominations, emerged with only two — one for album of the year, "Faith," and another for top male pop vocalist for the song "Father Figure."

The winners will be announced at the Grammy award ceremonies telecast live by CBS from the Shrine auditorium in Los Angeles on Feb 22. The telecast will be hosted by comedian Billy Crystal for the third straight year.

Competing with Baker, McFerrin and Chapman for song of the year is Sting's "Be Still My Beating Heart" and Brenda Russell's "Piano in the Dark."

The other nominees for album of the year are Sting's "...Nothing Like The Sun" and Steve Winwood's "Roll With It."

Man in custody
NEWARK, New Jersey, Jan 13, (AP): A Korean-American businessman has been arrested in an alleged international conspiracy to buy nerve-gas bombs for export from the United States, possibly to Iran, officials said.

Juwahn Yun, 48, was accused by the United States of conspiring to violate the Arms Export Control Act by seeking to ship the gas Sarin, which attacks the central nervous system causing convulsions and death.

"It was a wide-ranging, trans-Atlantic conspiracy," said first assistant US attorney Michael Chertoff.

Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe accepts human rights accord

VIENNA, Jan 13, (Reuters): Negotiators from 35 countries today reached provisional agreement on a package of measures designed to bolster human rights and contacts in Eastern Europe.

After more than two years of negotiations, delegates to the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) agreed on wide-ranging proposals committing governments to respect freedom of religion, information and travel. Human rights and security accord was informally accepted by all 35 nations at the Helsinki review conference.

The agreement will be sent back to governments for their approval.

The package cannot be adopted until NATO and the Warsaw Pact agree on a framework for new conventional arms reduction talks.

Stalled
Negotiations between the two military blocs, which have been going on in parallel with CSCE, are stalled over a dispute between Greece and Turkey involving Cyprus.

Agreement on the new arms talks, if reached, will be included in the final CSCE document to be signed by foreign ministers of the 35 participating nations in Vienna next week.

The document underlines the rights to practice religion and to religious education, to legal appeal against bureaucratic decisions, and to form groups to monitor human rights violations.

It also spells out the right to freedom of travel, setting limits on the time authorities can take to process applications to travel abroad on family business.

In urgent cases, the limit is only three days, in normal cases three months.

The document also stipulates that restrictions on travel for reasons of national security, for instance if a person has been working in sensitive areas such as defence, should be kept to a minimum and should be regularly reviewed.

The United States yesterday demanded and won tougher language on the national security question, which has been often used by Soviet bloc states as a reason for rejecting applications to go abroad.

The proposals also underline the right of all citizens to freedom of information, including the right to listen to foreign broadcasts. In recent months East bloc countries have stopped jamming foreign radio stations such as the US-financed radio Free Europe and the BBC.

Improving
In the section devoted to improving economic co-operation, the document proposes that foreign businessmen be given easier access to companies and that governments publish more frequent and more accurate financial statistics.

The document states that all the provisions must be subject to national laws, seen by some delegates as offering an escape clause for reluctant reformers in the East bloc such as Romania.

Romania had raised objections to several clauses. It agreed to the document but said it would make a separate statement once the document had been officially adopted.

The statement was expected to say that the contents of the document must conform to Romanian law.

Two British crewmen killed

British and German warplanes collide

BREMEN, West Germany, Jan 13, (AP): A British Tornado warplane collided with two West German jet fighters just outside a northern village today, killing the two British crewmen and injuring a German pilot, police said.

Several houses were slightly damaged on the edge of the village of Wiesmoor by debris from the British Tornado but there were no civilian casualties, according to a Wiesmoor police spokesman.

The accident comes amid growing complaints among the West German public about the dangers to civilians from NATO training flights over this densely populated country.

A spokesman at the West German Defence Ministry in Bonn said the British plane flew into a group of eight German Alfajet fighters that were preparing to land at Wittmund air base near the town of Wiesmoor.

The Defence Ministry spokesman, who asked not to be identified by name, said the Tornado plane collided with two of the Alfajets, with one crashing into a Wiesmoor field and the other landing safely with damage.

Wiesmoor is about 80 kilometres (50 miles) northwest of the port city of Bremen.

The pilot of the German jet that crashed was injured, he said.

Confirm
The Tornado crashed into a field just outside Wiesmoor while the German plane came down a few kilometres (miles) away, said the spokesman.

A spokesman at the British forces headquarters in Rheindahlen confirmed that the Tornado had crashed after the collision.

Killing the two-man British crew. "We can confirm that the British Tornado crashed into two German jet fighters just outside a northern village today, killing the two British crewmen and injuring a German pilot, police said."

Brueggem is near the West German border with the Netherlands, about 350 kilometres (210 miles) south of the crash site.

"The Tornado was on a routine training mission when it collided with a German Air Force Alfajet," said the spokesman, who asked not to be identified by name. He did not mention the second German jet.

The Wiesmoor police spokesman said the injured German pilot had been taken to a nearby hospital.

It was not immediately clear whether the German pilot sustained his injuries while ejecting from the airplane.

Identities of the British crew killed in the crash "will not be released pending notification of next of kin," the British forces spokesman said.

He said a team of expert was travelling to the scene to investigate the crash.

The last major NATO plane crash occurred on Dec 8, when an American warplane plunged into the central city of Remscheid, bursting into a ball of fire and killing six people.

'Great reformer'
TAIPEI, Jan 13, (AP): Taiwan today marked the first anniversary of the death of President Chiang Ching-kuo with a brief service inside the presidential office, and his successor hailed him as a "great reformer."

Iraq to free hundreds of ...

(Continued from Page 1)

with the first article of the resolution, calling for withdrawal of the two sides' forces to international boundaries, Mahallati said.

"The council's responsibility has become even more crucial in the light of regional countries' concern over the fragile ceasefire," he added.

Peace talks which started on Aug 25 have made little progress and were adjourned with no date set for their resumption.

The Iraqis are slowly salvaging a number of ships stranded in areas around the Shatt Al Arab waterway, according to a published report and shipping executives.

None of the ships stranded in the estuary have been retrieved, according to the report which appeared in Dubai's English language daily, Gulf News.

Blocked
The outbreak of the war in September 1980 had blocked Iraqi outlets to the Gulf and the minute the ceasefire took hold, Iraq revived its commercial shipping despite the inability to use the Shatt, its main outlet to the sea.

Gulf-based shipping executives confirmed that the Bann river provides Iraq with a makeshift short term alternative to the Shatt.

The Gulf News said that implementation of the ceasefire "has given Iraq access to the shallow water channels leading to Umm Qasr, Khor Zubair and Khor Abdullah, which are separated by a land mass from the Shatt Al Arab waterway."

Libya returns body of American
(Continued from Page 1)

The official Libyan news agency JANA said two US warplanes were shot down by the Libyan Air Force on Tuesday in international airspace as it flew from Tripoli to Istanbul.

JANA said Libya had protested to the Arab Civil Aviation and International Civil Aviation Organisations, saying the US planes "endangered the safety of the airliner." But a US Defense Department spokesman said: "We have checked with the authorities and have no evidence of such an incident."

A US embassy spokesman in Rome said three US experts working with Italian officials hoped to make a formal identification of the body later today.

The body would then be repatriated on a special US military plane, possibly tomorrow.

Asked whether Washington had thanked Tripoli for handing over the body, the spokesman said the United States had had no contacts with Libya over the matter and that it meant "no change in US policy towards Libya."

In Washington, a US Defense Department spokesman, Major Bill O'Connell, said air combat operations planned for next week in the central Mediterranean, north of Libya, would not go ahead but were likely to be held elsewhere in the Mediterranean.

Arafat ready to compromise ...
(Continued from Page 1)

territories."

At the end of the three-year autonomy, Shamir proposed a confederation with Jordan and the Palestinians and allowing Palestinians and Jordan an access to the sea, it said.

Israel, Palestine and Jordan should be linked economically in a way similar to that of the European Economic Community and a joint authority should be created to explore water and soil, according to the plan as reported by Al Ittihad.

British Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave, who is in Tunis, expects to meet Arafat.

The meeting, part of a British initiative to try to bring Middle East peace, will be the first ever between Arafat and a British government minister.

King Faisal awards
RIYADH, Jan 13, (AP): The King Faisal international prize committee announced today their annual awards for 1989, with two Americans, a Briton and a German among seven winners that shared the four prizes.

A fifth prize, service to Islam, was to be announced tomorrow.

Dr Luigi Mastroianni, professor at the University of Pennsylvania, school of medicine, shared the prize for medicine with Dr Robert Geoffrey Edwards, a professor of human reproduction at the University of Cambridge in England. Edwards was one of the doctors who assisted in the successful birth of the world's first test-tube baby in 1978.

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N. Korea third major chemical arms force

LONDON, Jan 13, (Reuters): North Korea has built up the world's third-biggest chemical weapons force with the help of imports from Japan, Jane's Defence Weekly said.

Defence experts in London said they believed North Korea was probably capable of producing chemical weapons but doubted it had done so on any significant scale.

North Korea told a conference on chemical arms in Paris on Monday that it was acceding to a 1925 international agreement banning use of the weapons.

Joseph Bermudez, an independent defence analyst who works in the United States for the authoritative Jane's military journal, said Pyongyang began producing chemical weapons in the late 1970s.

He said Pyongyang acquired materials for the project by importing millions of tonnes of chemical fertilisers and industrial chemicals from Japan.

"Chemical weapons production is now growing at ... known locations around Aoji-Ri,

Ch'ongjin, Ch'ongju-Nodong-jagu, Hamhung, Hwangnam, Kusong, Namp'o, Pakch'on, Pyongyang, Sinuiju, Sunch'on and Yongan," he wrote.

Example
"North Korea — which has the world's third-largest chemical warfare force — is a good example of how a relatively under-developed country can produce these weapons," Bermudez said. The Soviet Union and the United States have the biggest arsenals.

Jim McCoy of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), said, however: "Pyongyang is believed to have the capability, but to suggest they're producing on such a scale at so many centres stretches the imagination. I doubt it very much."

Bermudez said North Korean forces were equipped with an array of nerve gases such as tabun as well as mustard gas and hydrogen cyanide.

North Korea, he said, was also researching the use of biological "germ" weapons.

Passionate kissing not safe

CHICAGO, Jan 13, (Reuters): A kiss is just a kiss, or is it? Italian researchers said that a study of 45 couples showed passionate kissing can result in the spread of blood-borne diseases, including AIDS.

Writing in the Journal of the American Medical Association from Naples, the doctors said passionate kissing, which they defined as open-mouthed and lasting a few minutes, should not be considered a sexual activity safe from spreading the deadly acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

"The intense rubbing that takes place during kissing favours this passage, and if the blood

of one partner is infective, human immunodeficiency virus can pass into the blood stream of the other partner," said Dr Marcello Piazza, who along with several colleagues delivered a paper on the subject last year to the Italian Society for Experimental Biology.

Saliva samples taken from 90 study participants found blood in nearly half the samples, and the amount of blood increased significantly after extended open-mouthed kissing or normal teeth brushing. Some subjects preceded a passionate episode by brushing their teeth, increasing the risk of spreading disease, the doctors said.

Soon after emergency ends

Sri Lanka releases political detainees

COLOMBO, Jan 13, (Reuters): More than 200 political detainees walked free from military camps yesterday, hours after Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa ended a state of emergency in force for over five and a half years.

Premadasa, who promised to restore peace in the Indian Ocean island shattered by Tamil and Sinhalese guerrilla violence, signed a proclamation ending the emergency from midnight on Wednesday.

But the violence continued. Political analysts saw the violence as the rebels' reply to a Defence Ministry statement on Wednesday which said that in deciding to end the emergency the President had "taken into account the improving security situation."

Relatives hugged and kissed more than 50 detainees freed from a cricket stadium at Morat-

uwa, 15 km south of Colombo. The stadium is temporarily in use as a military camp.

Leelarathne Rupasinghe, 65, said his son, a vegetable dealer, had been arrested by the Army at a marketplace.

"He is innocent. He is not involved in criminal activity," Rupasinghe said as he waited for his son's release.

Another detainee, trade unionist P.R. Ratnayake said "though I am being released, I don't know why I was detained in the first place."

Military officials said 110 more detainees were released from Boosa camp in the southern district of Galle. Most of the other 1,500 people held in connection with rebel activity will be released soon if found to be innocent, the officials added.

Moratuwa officials said the detainees had been held for two months on suspicion of involvement in violence blamed on the southern-based People's

Liberation Front (JVP), a group of radical Sinhalese youth trying to overthrow the government.

Suspected Marxist guerrillas struck in southern Sri Lanka today for the second time this week, hurling grenades at a car and killing its two occupants, police said.

The police said the victims were civilians.

Killing

The attack at Deniyaya, northwest of this coastal town, was similar to one on Tuesday when suspected militants of the outlawed People's Liberation Front (JVP) killed two candidates for next month's general election along with their bodyguard.

The JVP became less active in the aftermath of presidential elections on Dec 19 but appears to be raising the tempo before parliamentary polls on Feb 15.

The group aims to overthrow the elected government by force and was blamed for more than



A political detainee shares a happy moment with his wife after he was released. (Reuters wirephoto)

600 killings last year.

The attack apart, a tour of southern towns revealed less tension than three weeks ago when fear of the JVP kept shops and offices closed and many electors away from polling booths.

Today schools, shops and government offices were operating normally, few police or security forces were visible and

the roadblocks set up by the JVP to disrupt transport before and during the presidential election were absent.

Meanwhile, militant Tamil Tigers have called on the island's Tamil minority to boycott next month's general elections, denouncing them as "unjust, undemocratic and totally unacceptable."

Palestinian boy dies as Jewish settlers smash Arab monument

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 13, (AP): A 15-year-old Palestinian died today of head wounds sustained in a clash with troops, and assailants believed to be Jewish militants smashed a monument to Arab soldiers in Arab East Jerusalem.

Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek expressed concern the incident might spark retaliation by Arab militants and further fuel tensions in the disputed city. "The Arabs have the same, considerable number of fanatics in their ranks as we do," Kollek said.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, merchants began a seven-day commercial strike after pro-PLO leaders of the Palestinian uprising called for the move in slogans painted on walls.

The strike is to protest Israeli raids to collect taxes from Palestinians. Non-payment of taxes is a major tactic of the revolt against Israeli rule.

Dialogue
Also today, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir accused the United States of prolonging the 13-month uprising by opening a dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organisation last month.

"It gave a great push and great encouragement to people who perhaps had reached a point where they were considering desisting from this way (the uprising)," he said in a published interview.

Mohammed Yaub Salhoub,

15, died early today at Mukkased hospital in East Jerusalem, a day after being shot in the head by troops during clashes in the Nuseirat refugee camp in the occupied Gaza Strip, hospital officials said.

The Army said it was checking the report.

The death brought to 352 the number of Palestinians killed in the 13-month-old uprising. Fifteen Israelis have also died.

The monument to soldiers of the Arab Legion outside the Rockefeller Museum in East Jerusalem was partially smashed, said police spokesman Alex Lapidot. He said police had no suspects.

An anonymous caller told Israel Army Radio the monument was damaged by "lovers of the land of Israel and the Jewish people."

The caller said the attack was carried out to protest the dismantling by troops two days ago of a monument erected by Jewish settlers in honour of an Israeli taxi driver slain in the West Bank.

Settlers have vowed to erect additional monuments to Jews killed in the occupied lands in defiance of an Army ban.

"The people who did this are stupid, they are idiots," said an angry Kollek, referring to those who damaged the Arab Legion monument. "I hope this will end peacefully."

Kollek said the city would offer to repair the monument.

11 Bangladeshis die from cold

DHAKA, Jan 13, (AP): At least 11 people living in shantytowns in northern Bangladesh died this week as temperatures dipped to their lowest in 30 years, according to reports today.

Police said four people died in Rajshahi, about 190 kilometres north of Dhaka. Seven other deaths were blamed on cold weather in the northern districts of Dinajpur, Rangpur and Sylhet, said The New Nation, an independent English-language daily newspaper.

Weather forecasters said the temperature yesterday dropped to 4 degrees Celsius (40 Fahrenheit), the lowest since 1959. Forecasters said they did not expect temperatures to rise until early next week.

Authorities in neighbouring India said at least 24 people had died this week from the cold weather. Newspapers, however, put the death toll at 100.

Israel raids Palestinian bases in south Lebanon

BEIRUT, Jan 13, (Reuters): Israeli jets have blasted Palestinian positions near the southern Lebanese port city of Sidon while just a few miles away Shiite Muslim foes fought for control of a string of mountain villages.

Security sources in Sidon said two Israeli jets protected by three others bombed positions of the radical Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC) led by Abu Nidal at Bqosta, in a valley just north of the port town.

The attack, the first on Lebanon this year, carried an element of surprise as Israeli planes have rarely launched night raids under overcast weather.

The sources said ambulances rushed to the scene but returned empty.

(In Jerusalem an Israeli Army spokesman claimed the positions were used for "planning and staging attacks."

"Air Force planes attacked

terrorist targets of the Abu Nidal organisation north of Sidon. All our aircraft returned safely," he said.)

A strike shut shops and offices in many Muslim areas of Beirut today but failed to halt bitter fighting between rival Shiite groups for control of a strategic area of southern Lebanon.

The Syrian-backed Amal movement ordered the strike over what it called atrocities by Hizbollah.

Amal and Hezbollah gunmen fought house-to-house battles in the small hilltop town of Jubah as their struggle for control of the Iqlim Al Tufah area on the edge of Israel's self-declared border security zone went into a 14th day.

Security and militia sources have reported at least 116 people killed in the latest round of year-long violence between Amal and Hezbollah.

Japan refusing entry to Pakistanis

TOKYO, Jan 13, (AP): Japanese immigration authorities are turning away hundreds of people from Pakistan and Bangladesh trying to enter Japan before it begins requiring visitors from those countries to present visas, an immigration official said today.

On Sunday, Japan will begin requiring visitors carrying Bangladesh and Pakistan passports to obtain visas in order to enter the country. In the past, Pakistanis and Bangladeshis have been allowed to enter Japan without visas for up to 90 days for sightseeing or business purposes.

The number of men entering Japan from those countries to work illegally has sharply increased in recent years, prompting the Japanese government to change its policy on arrivals from those countries.

Arrivals from Pakistan and Bangladesh have sharply increased this week and yesterday immigration authorities at Tokyo international airport in Narita refused more than 200 entries, the most it has turned away in a single day since the airport opened 11 years ago, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

In 1988, Japanese immigration officials refused entry to 9,000 foreigners, three times the number turned away in 1987. About 87 per cent were young men from Pakistan and Bangladesh who authorities believed would try to work without proper visas, the official said.

Japan to stop aid to Burma

TOKYO, Jan 13, (AP): The Japanese government has decided to suspend a 927-million-yen (\$7.4 million) grant to Burma because it is under military rule, the Foreign Ministry said today.

The grant, approved by the government last July, however, has not yet been provided to Burma because of political unrest that broke out there last September, the ministry official said.

He said the decision was made because the Japanese government has not recognised the administration of Prime Minister Saw Maung as the legitimate government.

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US to allow in fewer Asian refugees

NEW YORK, Jan 13, (Reuters): The United States will allow in 39 per cent more Soviet refugees in 1989 and offset the increase by cutting the number of places reserved for Southeast Asians. The New York Times reported.

Quoting Reagan administration officials, the newspaper said the decision would give Soviet emigres 6,500 of the 53,000 refugee places first earmarked for Southeast Asians.

It said it was the first time the United States has significantly reduced the quota for any region of the world to accommodate prospective Soviet refugees.

The revised quotas, which increase the places reserved for Soviet citizens from 18,000 to 25,000, still fall short of anticipated demand by those seeking to leave the Soviet Union, the newspaper said.

The State Department estimates that 50,000 people, most of them Jews and Armenians, will file applications to come to the United States this year as refugees from the Soviet Union.

Visas

US officials were quoted as saying they wanted to avoid a repetition of last summer when the US Embassy in Moscow, inundated with applications, temporarily stopped issuing refugee visas.

To offset the new Soviet refugee quota, the United States reduced the quotas in three other categories by a total of 7,000.

The ceiling for refugees coming from Vietnam in the orderly departure programme was cut by 5,550 to 19,500.

The number of Indochinese refugees, including boat people, who come through other Asian countries was reduced by 1,000 to 27,000.

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Report presented at 41st International Education Conference

Kuwait education takes up 9.4 per cent of state budget

GENEVA, Jan 13, (KUNA): The number of students at schools in Kuwait has risen from just 600 fifty years ago to 361,711 in the 1986/87 academic year, according to a new study issued by the Ministry of Education.

The report, presented to the 41st International Education Conference currently in session in Geneva, noted that the government's spending on education had in recent years taken up an increasingly large proportion of the national budget.

In the year 1985/86, 7.9 per cent of the state budget went to the Ministry of Education, while the following year it rose to 9.0 per cent and for 1987/88 it was fixed at 9.4 per cent, totalling 296.98 million dinars.

Of the sum, 8.65 per cent was spent on kindergartens, 22.4 per cent on elementary education, 24.9 per cent on intermediate, 19.5 on secondary and 7.9 per cent on subsidies for private education.

The administrative costs of running the ministry accounted for 6.85 per cent of the budget,

compared with 7.95 per cent the previous year.

Figures from the report showed that there had been a significant move away from state schools to private education in the period between 1985 and 1987.

While the state kindergartens and secondary schools recorded stable or growing pupil numbers during this period, there was a downturn in student numbers in elementary or intermediate state schools.

For the private sector, there was a sharp upturn in student numbers in both elementary and intermediate education.

Private schooling

The detailed figures are as follows: For the state kindergartens sector, the number of students increased from 94 to 112 between 1985 and 1987, with the number of pupils rising from 27,480 to 33,357.

In the private sector the number of kindergartens increased from 67 to 79, and pupil numbers rose from 15,350 to 16,118.

For state elementary educa-

tion the number of schools was increased from 188 to 195 in the period 1985-87, but pupil numbers fell slightly, from 124,066 to 119,932.

In the private sector schools numbers in elementary education rose from 82 to 102, while pupil numbers rose from 48,900 to 61,765.

The number of intermediate state schools was increased from 168 to 174 between 1985 and 1987.

Student numbers eased very slightly over the two years, from 121,696 to 120,961.

Private intermediate school numbers rose from 61 to 87, while the numbers of students increased from 19,435 to 27,579.

The secondary state sector witnessed an increase in school numbers from 98 to 107 over the two years.

Student numbers rose from 78,715 to 86,323 between 1985 and 1987.

In comparison private secondary school numbers rose from 44 to 52, with numbers enrolled increasing only fractionally, from 13,362 to 13,410.

Mujahedeen must reach agreement for coalition, says Afghan official

By Hamid Siddiqui

A SENIOR Afghan government official said the mujahedeen rebels must reach an agreement for a broad-based coalition. He also said that President Najibullah has not made his participation in a future government as a precondition in an Afghan settlement.

The Chief Justice of the Afghanistan Supreme Court Nizamuddin Tehzib was speaking to the Arab Times after he delivered a message to Kuwait's State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Mohammad Al Osaimeh from Najibullah for HH the Amir.

Tehzib, who refused to say how long he will stay in Kuwait, did not reveal the contents of the message, but said it dealt with all the issues related to the Afghan problem including the future shape of a new government after the Soviets withdraw troops completely.

Under the Geneva accords signed in April 1988, Soviet troops must complete their withdrawal from Afghanistan by Feb 15.

"If the negotiations lead to an agreement through Lui Jirga (a sort of parliament) and a decision is reached on a broad-based government in Afghanistan, Najibullah will abandon his post," Tehzib said.

The Afghan official insisted on negotiations and expressed regret at the rejection by mujahedeen leaders of further talks with the Soviets. He said: "Negotiations are necessary for any political settlement in Afghanistan."

Soviet Ambassador to Kabul Yuli Vorontsov, who is also the First Deputy Foreign Minister, held the first face-to-face talks with mujahedeen leaders in Saudi Arabia on Dec 3 and 4. These were followed by further negotiations in Islamabad in the first week of this month.

Vorontsov also held similar talks with Iranian leaders and met the exiled former King Zahir

Shah in Italy to discuss the shape of future Afghan government.

About the possible role of Zahir Shah, Tehzib said after a compromise is reached over a broad-based government, the former King's usefulness can be determined.

The mujahedeen, at present led by Sibghatullah Mojaddidi have rejected further talks with the Soviets after what he described a threatening Soviet attitude.

Vorontsov has described the attitude of mujahedeen as "medieval".

Tehzib said Mojaddidi's attitude is very surprising as he is known as a champion of negotiations. He added that closing the doors for negotiations means "the attitude of our opponents is wavering and they don't have any consensus of opinion on how to settle the conflict."

The Afghan official also expressed regret at the rejection by mujahedeen leaders of a ceasefire declared by Najibullah and supported by the Soviets. He asked: "Without a truce how can the negotiations proceed and how can a settlement be worked out?"

Tehzib accused the Pakistan armed forces for blocking the return of Afghan refugees to their own country. He claimed: "The Afghan refugees want to return home and play a role in the reconstruction."

"But," he said, "Pakistan armed forces are putting pressure and placing hurdles on their way to return."

He neither elaborated nor gave any specific example of such a move by Pakistan.

But Tehzib praised the restoration of democracy in Pakistan saying both President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto are well-known for their democratic approach. He hoped the new leadership in Pakistan would help solve the Afghan conflict in a way acceptable to all the concerned parties.

Scientific standards being applied to children's books and toys

KUWAIT, Jan 13, (KUNA): Only books and toys that meet strict hygienic and psychological standards would be admitted to the spring Festival of Children's Books and Toys, according to a senior official of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters today.

The council's child culture section chief, Amal Alghanim told KUNA that an experts committee has been probing books and toys, seeking to feature at the festival, over the past four months.

Alghanim pointed out that the committee is membered by specialists in the field including head of the Health Ministry's preventive hygiene unit.

The council official indicated that the body of experts are applying scientific standards when screening the exhibits to deny harmful books and toys a place at the fair.

Alghanim said the committee will not approve any toys that are violent, swallowable, containing toxic components, psychologically harmful, or have sharp edges.

She added that artificial colouring inclusive of phosphoric colours harmful to human eyes would lead to disqualification of toys, besides

plastic fibres that could trigger skin irritation or allergy.

Alghanim said books likewise should not be an affront to religious values, patriotic feelings and public taste.

She indicated that the experts would prohibit bad books both in terms of subjects such as magic and superstition, and bad printing. Elaborating on that point she said books with small print that could hurt the eyes of children would not be allowed at the festival.

The official expressed pride at Kuwait being a pioneer in applying scientific specifications for approving the kind of books and toys that could be sold at children fairs.

Meanwhile, Alghanim said the National Council has initiated the setting up of a national committee that controls and supervises toy imports into the country. She pointed out that the committee probes toys for any dangerous material and determines their age groups.

She added that the committee groups representatives from the National Council, the Health Ministry, the Education Ministry, the Ministry of Trade and Industry and Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research.



Mazidi ... public participation.

Airport fee from April 1

THE decree involving airport departure fees will be effective from April 1, 1989, according to Issa Al Mazidi, Minister of State for Service Affairs.

He told a local daily that those leaving via air, land or sea will have to pay the fee. The exact amount to be paid will be determined by the Council of Ministers according to local circumstances.

Mazidi added that the fees aimed at public participation in the development of services offered by the airport, border gates and ports.

He denied that the fees were imposed in order to collect money either to support or cover a deficit in the public budget and added that the Council of Ministers and other relevant authorities study all plans to find substitute sources of income that may cover developmental requirements.

Shamlan opens higher education seminar today

HIGHER education and development in the Arab countries will be the topic of a seminar which will be co-sponsored by the Kuwait-based Arab Planning Institute and the Economic Development Institute (EDI) of the World Bank, according to a press release issued by the Arab Planning Institute.

The seminar, scheduled to open today will be inaugurated by Dr Ali Abdullah Al Shamlan, Minister of Higher Education, at the Arab Planning Institute headquarters.

The seminar will concentrate on the role of higher education in Arab countries, social and economic factors affecting the higher education process, upgrading of educational institutions, manpower and unemployment problems, labour markets and human resources planning.

The press release said that 30 senior educational officials, from the Arab world, and a number of experts from USA and Canada will be attending the seminar, which will continue until Jan 18.

Arab engineering conference next month

KUWAIT will host the 18th Arab Engineering Conference on Feb 18 - 22, 1989 under the patronage of HH the Amir.

The four day conference will be supervised by the Arab Engineering Union who will survey and evaluate both Arab engineering abilities and consultation experience. The conference will also discuss issues on comprehensive Arab engineering solidarity.

The 1st Arab Engineering Conference was held in Egypt in May 1945 and Kuwait hosted the 11th conference in March 1969.

The Kuwaiti Engineers Society is exerting efforts in preparations for the conference.

India launches 'health cum holiday' tourism campaign in Bahrain

INDIA has launched a tourism campaign in Bahrain to attract visitors from the island to visit India for medical treatment as well as tourism in a specially designed health cum holiday package tour.

Talking to Arab Times, AA. Azem, Tourism Promotion Officer, Government of India Tourist Office (GITO), Bahrain, said the aim of the campaign is to enable visitors from Bahrain who are seeking unconventional ancient forms of medical treatment to come to India for treatment and at the same time take the opportunity to visit tourist attractions in and around the place of treatment.

"We are aiming at patients who are not satisfied with modern medical treatment and would like to try alternative forms of cure which are both economical and effective. In the course of recuperation the patient may also like to see places of interest at little extra cost. In this way a person can accomplish both in a single trip."

He said that India offers one of the oldest medical systems in the world, which includes apart from modern medicine, Ayurvedic (derived from Vedic), Nature Cure, Homeopathy and Unani (Greek). Such forms of medical treatment are popular with foreigners because, apart from being extremely economical compared to other parts of the world, they require little or no surgery, he added.

The campaign combining 'health cum holiday package' has been launched in Bahrain for the first time on an experimental basis.

"Broadly speaking we are promoting family travel for health and holiday purposes. Arab visitors usually travel with their families on medical treatment abroad. The idea is to allow them to relax and enjoy some sightseeing, while the patient is being treated," said Azem.

The official said that as part of its services GITO provides free assistance to visitors in India for anything that may be required. GITO officers are available to render such assistance throughout India.

Among the various tourist places recommended by GITO for visitors while undergoing treatment in hospitals in Bombay include: Mathran, Kanakda, Lonowala, Mahabaleswar - all within easy reach outside Bombay by car or train and are endowed with a serene and beautiful environment. Hyderabad is the centre of 'Unani' treatment in India.

Azem emphasised that his office is capable of designing 'budget health travel' to suit the needs and budget of any class of visitors from Bahrain to India.

The campaign was initially launched in Kuwait three years ago and proved to be a success.

The Indian tourist official stated that 1989 is expected to provide a good year for Indian tourism from the Gulf, including Bahrain. He cited the end of the Gulf conflict, increasing facilities for tourism in India including a sound infrastructure, as indications for a successful year for Indian tourism.

Saudis offer reward in Maliki murder case

BANGKOK, Jan 13, (AP): Saudi Arabia has offered a 200,000-baht (\$7,340) reward for information leading to the arrest of the gunman who killed a Saudi diplomat last week, police said yesterday.

The reward was offered by Ali Asseer, chief of security of the Saudi Foreign Ministry, who arrived in Thailand recently to work with investigators, said Lt Gen. Prawit Wongvises, assistant to the national police chief.

Police have made no arrests in the killing of Saleh Abdullah Al Maliki, 35, a third secretary of the Saudi Arabian embassy. He was shot at close range Jan 4 while walking from the embassy

to his nearby apartment in Bangkok.

"There has been much more progress in the case, and we could have a new development in the next couple of days," Prawit said without elaborating.

He also said that the investigation on the possibility that Al Maliki was killed over a matter involving his embassy duties.

The diplomat processed applications for visas for Thais wishing to work in Saudi Arabia, and he may have been targeted by Thai job placement agencies who considered him too strict, police said. They added that they found in his embassy office a letter warning him to process applications more quickly.

Arab boycott committee adds first Russian firm to list

DAMASCUS, Jan 13, (AP): The 60th meeting of the Arab Boycott of Israel Committee ended yesterday with a decision to drop the Japanese Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation and the American Baxter Travenol Laboratories Inc. from its blacklist, while adding the first Russian firm among others.

The committee office said a partial boycott was called for against a Russian firm for the first time. Licensintorg, a subsidiary of Pierre Cardin. The firm's contacts with Israel could not be immediately confirmed.

The Spanish Immobiliarias Asociadas SA, Huertusa, Daena SA and Sheba Publicaciones SA, Holland's Eurooil Holding BV, Belgium's T.P. Industries and the British Ladbroke Group PLC, were added to the boycott list.

The decision to drop certain companies from the list will be in effect after it is confirmed that these companies stop doing business with Israel.

ness with Israel, the committee said in its announcement.

Others taken off the blacklist include the German Accumulatorenfabrik Sonenschein GMBH, Osborn International GMBH, Plesner Unterwasserpumpen GMBH and the Swiss Moulier Machines Holding (MMH) and Tornos Bechler SA.

It also dropped the American Turbine Services Ltd and Konica Camera Corporation, India's Micro Labs Private Ltd, Italy's Nuova Fulgorcavi SPA and Holland's Sonnenschein Nederland BV.

The Arab boycott attempts to prevent multinational corporations who do business with Israel from doing business in the Arab world.

The committee also condemned the US downing of two Libyan jets on Jan 4 and called for "practical stands against the US State Department, coupled with a comprehensive economic boycott in return for any further aggression."

Health Ministry decree on food radiation levels

THE Ministry of Public Health has issued a decree indicating acceptable levels of radiation for consumer goods.

The ministry has taken this step after detecting higher radiation rates in some food items imported from countries that were exposed to the last radiation accident.

The Radiation Prevention Department at the ministry tested and evaluated samples to find out the suitable maximum level for human consumption. It also co-operated with other authorities in taking samples and conducting measurements for radiation levels.

The ministry indicated that the maximum radiation level permitted is 75 units for mutton, fish, poultry, vegetables and grains, 30 units for dairy products, 10 units for infant foods, 3.7 beta units and 3.7 alpha units for bottled water and liquids and 0.37 alpha units per 300 kilograms

of fodder.

Products and consumer items exceeding the maximum levels are prohibited and both the Municipality and Ministry of Health will seize such products and undertake necessary measures.

The Committee for Radiation Prevention, will ask the Municipality and the General Customs Department to make it an obligation for importers to return illegal products or dispose with them as indicated by the law, at the importer's expense.

Manpower statistics

THE workforce totalled 688,446 during 1988 in Kuwait, according to statistics issued by the Ministry of Planning, a local daily reported.

KD360,000 for civil defence

KUWAIT has allocated KD360,000 as a preliminary budget for training civil defence volunteers, according to Lt Col Mutlaq Minawer, Director of Training at the Civil Defence Department.

He added that the budget will be used to purchase specialised equipment required for training activities. The first batch of volunteers will begin training on Jan 28.

The two-month course has 250 men and 60 women.

Minawer pointed out that the Civil Defence Department has opened training centres in all five governorates. Trainees will get both theoretical and practical training on fire and emergency activities. They will be trained by specialists and technicians from the Municipality, the Health Ministry, the General Fire Department and the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training.

COMPUTER COURSES AT KUWAIT UNIVERSITY

1. Introduction to IBM-PC's and DOS. (Arabic & English).
2. English Word Processing And Office Management using WordStar 2000 plus, FormTool and Sidekick packages.
3. Data Management Using dBase III plus and LOTUS 123 Interlinked.
4. Programming with BASIC Language.
5. Engineering and Graphics Design using AutoCAD.
6. Statistical analysis using SPSS.

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At the PC Center, Main Building (K2) Khalidiah Campus, any time between 8:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. until January 25th.
Introductory courses start Jan 28th
Specialized courses start Feb 18th
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Here to success

Specialists to study problems in marketing local produce

THE Agricultural Co-operative Societies Union leads the Kuwaiti agricultural co-operative movement and strives to protect and defend its interests, according to Barrak Al Noun, chairman of the union.

In an interview with a local daily, Noun said that the union spared no efforts in spreading awareness among farmers, organising the agricultural movement and co-ordinating the activities of the Agricultural Co-operative Societies.

Noun disclosed that the union had empowered a number of lecturers and specialists from Kuwait University to conduct studies on the marketing problems facing agricultural products in Kuwait.

Protection

Some people have called for imposing custom duties on imported agricultural products to protect national products. However, the official feels that this should be postponed until the results of the studies are concluded in order to avoid any negative effects which may arise from such a move.

The union, with the help of its four co-operative societies, has played a significant role in surmounting problems facing Kuwait farmers, particularly in the marketing of produce, he said.

Noun added that the union

created co-operative marketing to protect the interests of both consumers and farmers. This system minimises the role of brokers, who were exploiting both farmers and consumers.

Meanwhile, Noun said that union has suggested the establishment of an Agricultural credit bank to extend necessary loans to farmers, and the state has responded by establishing an agricultural portfolio which can be considered as the first step towards establishing the proposed bank.

He added that the union also provided farmers with seeds, fertilisers and insecticides at co-operative prices.

Loans

The Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources, under the new board of directors and Chairman and Director-General, Sheikh Ibrahim Duaij Al Sabah, has allowed a number of farmers into its membership to assist the agricultural sector.

However, Noun suggested that the authority should strive to expand agricultural land by allocating and distributing new agricultural plots to farmers so as to broaden the base for agricultural products. Further, the authority should pay special attention to the issue of agricultural finance by granting necessary loans to farmers.



SENIOR students of the Indian School, Salmiya, (afternoon shift) celebrated their annual Parents Day on Wednesday at the Indian Arts Circle. After a recitation from the Holy Quran, students began the event with an invocation in Sanskrit, 'Vandana' followed by their dramatic talents in 'Blackwood House' and depicted scenes from the 'Ramayana'. Picture shows boys dancing the popular 'Dandia Ras'.



Ben Kingsley as Gandhi in Wednesday's feature film

Choice of the week

GANDHI: Wednesday at 10 pm, KTV 2. Directed by Richard Attenborough. Winner of eight Academy Awards including Best Picture, Actor, Director and Screenplay. An epic account of Mahatma Gandhi's lifelong non-violent struggle against English imperialism in India. Filmed on a lavish scale, the film works concurrently as an intimate cerebral biography and as a stirring adventure tale. Slightly protracted, Gandhi does not escape the old-fashioned genteel qualities inherent in the script and direction. Fortunately, Ben Kingsley's insightful performance as Gandhi and the movie's panoramic visual sweep propel the story line forward. Starring: Ben Kingsley, Candice Bergen, Edward Fox, Sir John Gielgud, Martin Sheen, John Mills and Trevor Howard.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Sultan Gallery
ANN Eid: Photographs of Kuwait, on show at the gallery. Thunayan Al Ghanem Bldg., Al Soor St. Open daily from 5-8pm.

Iwan Gallery
EXHIBITION of lithographs by three 19th century Orientalists. Open from 9 am to 1 pm, 5 to 9 pm, at the gallery located in Zahra Complex, Sal. mya.

Ghadir Gallery
JAN 14-24: Kuwaiti artist Awaif Al Shatty will display a selection of her latest paintings at the gallery. It will be open from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.30 pm.

THEATRE

Kuwait Players
Kuwait Players present *Aladdin* in a musical fantasy directed by Carol Jelley. It will be performed at the Universal American School, Salwa. Performances are as follows: Jan 17 (7.30 pm) Gala night including buffet. Jan 18 and 25 (6.30 pm) family night. Jan 19/26: matinee (3 pm) and evening (7.30 pm). Jan 20: 3 pm, 5.30 pm. Jan 23: 5.30 pm: Mad-hatters Tea Party, followed by Alice in Wonderland. Jan 27: Final performance. Tickets — KD3 (adults) and KD2.50 (children). For reservations call 5726048, 5657749.

Gujarati Drama
THE Gujarati community in Kuwait will hold a full-length (three-act) play to commemorate the Nehru Centenary in May. Gujarati-speaking Indians who are interested in acting or helping backstage are requested to call 5618413 (9 am to 1 pm) or 5653279 (4-7 pm) before Jan 25.

Konkani Drama
FEB 3: The New G.O.A. will present the Konkani drama "Ekuch Kazar," featuring M. Boyer, Betty Naz, Sabina, Rosario Dias and others, at the IAC. For reservations call 2402188.

SOCIAL

Contact
JAN 14: The next meeting of the ladies information group Contact will be held at the SAS Tent. Newcomers to Kuwait are particularly welcome. For details tele. 3720197/4874513/5388105.

Sri Lankan Show
JAN 15: 4 pm. A Sri-Lankan get-together and variety show will be held at Dira Hall, Ramada Al Salam Hotel. The Sri Lankan United Arts Circle will present a music show with the Lakpals Band and Nir-male.

Bangladesh Association
THE Bangladesh Association, Kuwait, will organise drawing, story-telling and recitation competitions on the occasion of the Shabid Day (Martyrs Day). Only Bangladesh children up to the age of 15 are eligible to take part. Those who are interested contact any office bearer of the association or call Yusuf — Tel: 4314193.

Bharati Kalai Mandram
JAN 20: IAC. Funalices. The Bharati Kalai Mandram, a fine arts association of the Tamil speaking community, will celebrate the Nehru centenary and Pongal, a harvest festival. A variety show featuring classical dances, drama and music

will be held. For entry passes call 5331561.

Kuwait Caledonians
FEB 2: The Caledonians will hold the Burns Night (Thursday) at the Messiah Beach Hotel. The guest from Scotland will be Jack Glenn. Tel: 5335082, 5332235, 3727691 ext. 253.

Danish Meeting
JAN 20: Daniella will hold a desert picnic for all Danes from 10 am. For details call Karen-Marie — 3715146; Annette — 3723413.

MUSIC

Kuwait Singers
JAN 16: First rehearsal starts at 7.30 pm at the Gulf English School, Salwa. Thereafter, rehearsals will be held each Saturday and Monday. Past, current and new singers welcome. For details phone 390-0922 or 538-4873.

CINEMA

British Council
JAN 14/15: 6.30 pm. A feature film "Death on the Nile" will be shown at the British Council. Starring Peter Ustinov, the film is about murder, mystery and jealousy onboard a steamer on the River Nile. Duration: 140 minutes. Admission is free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 2515512, 2533204.

HOTELS

At the Ramada
AL BENDAR Coffee Shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner, 6 am to midnight; a la carte available.

Thursday's is BBQ Night at Le Mirage Night Club, with full buffet and entertainment by the Al Arz Band.

The Friday Family Brunch introduces cartoon characters on the ship's discovery; train tour of the hotel's garden and waterfront.

The Marina Takeaway Counter features a selection of sandwiches and snacks, 4 to 11 pm.

At the Holiday Inn
Every Wednesday is "Sea Drama on Ice" in Al Dana. Thursday night is Indian night featuring exotic eastern cuisine; and listen to the music played by the Gharibian Trio. Enjoy Arabian Night in Al Andalus Supper club on Thursday nights. Friday brunch — fun time for families; games, prizes. Also open to Jaycee Club members.

At the Continental
GARDENIA: 7 am to midnight; buffets featuring Arabic, Continental and Indian food. Special buffet for Thursday dinner and Friday lunch.

Darbar: daily Indian lunch buffet, except Friday; a la carte dinner.

At Messiah Beach
MUBARAKIYAH Restaurant: open 24 hours, buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner and snacks. Sundays: Ladies Day; Mondays: birthday special; Fridays: special buffet "a go go."

At the Pullman
ELYSEES Restaurant offers gourmet French meal; Al Shallah Coffee Shop features international and Arabic cuisine with live entertainment.

At the International
THE Spanish extravaganza continues at the Fajlaka Restaurant with Ballet Espanol, presented by the Pato de Alba trio. Spanish gala with classical dances such as Flamenco will be held on Jan 19.

TV CORNER

This week on KTV 2

SUNDAY

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Dennis the Menace: cartoon serial
- 6.30 The Owl: a documentary for young viewers on wildlife. Tonight, research on the behaviour of dolphins; the make-up industry and other items.
- 7.00 Scientific Eye: "Fire". A look at fuel and energy.
- 7.30 The Pursuit of Happiness: "Boys Night Out". Duncan decides to remarry... and there is a cause for celebration.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Call Me Mister: one more murder and a break-in involve Jack and his partner in investigations.
- 9.40 Dive to Adventure: "Devil Fish".
- 10.00 What's Happening Now: comedy. Practical jokes are in vogue in tonight's episode.
- 10.30 Best-Seller: "The Man Who Lived at the Ritz". Perry King plays Philip Weber, the man who realises that it is worth taking risks for survival.
- 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

MONDAY

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Bionic Six: cartoon serial.
- 6.30 Cheryl's Children: based on characters created by John Wyndham. Surprises are in store for Cheryl's children.
- 7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of news and views.
- 7.30 Perspective: "Heart and lung transplant".
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 A Different World: "Pork-dye". Student elections and friendships dominate the life of students on the campus.
- 9.30 Rediscovery of the World: a look at the life on the western coast of America.
- 10.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: "Full Disclosure". A writer's life is in danger after his book is published.
- 10.30 French Feature Film: "Flic Story". Thriller.
- 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

TUESDAY

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Noveltoons: cartoon serial
- 6.30 Fire Raiser: the children help the police to

- find clues to a murder.
- 7.00 Footsteps: "The Wonders of Ellora". A British archaeologist examines the temples and ruins of Ellora, India.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 A Year in the Life: theft in the company leads to trouble in the family.
- 9.40 The Hit Squad: men and women are caught off-guard by the Hit Squad's candid cameras.
- 10.10 Rustle Loose: "The Baby". Mimi's friend seeks help to get rid of an "unwanted baby".
- 10.30 Jake and the Fatman: "Lady Be Good". A woman plots a murder. Will the police stop her on time? Starring: William Conrad and Joe E. Penny.
- 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

WEDNESDAY

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Transformers: cartoon serial.
- 6.30 Prestige: "Big Henry". A child is forced to lead a harsh life on a farm.
- 7.30 Mithal of Omaha: a programme on wildlife.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 You and the Law: local programme
- 8.55 Matlock: "The Rat Pack". Matlock is put in a difficult position by a client accused of murder.
- 9.40 The Cosby Show: Dr Huxtable becomes a plumber... Comedy.
- 10.00 Feature Film: "Gandhi". Starring: Ben Kingsley and Candice Bergen. 1982 production, directed by Richard Attenborough.
- 12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

THURSDAY

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 The Real Ghost: "Bats". cartoon serial.
- 6.30 Fairy Tale Theatre: "Hans and Gretel".
- 7.30 T and T: Mr T plays a tough streetwise private eye and his partner is a crusading lawyer, Amanda Taylor.

NIGHT CHEMIST

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Al Baghdad Pharmacy
Abdullah Al Salem St.
Al Muntasar Pharmacy
Ahmed Al Jaber St.
Salwa and Rumailiya
Al Shifaa Pharmacy
Hmoud Anjari Complex,
Salem Al Mubarak St.



Bill Cosby in The Cosby Show on Wednesday 9.40 pm.

- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 The Oldest Rookie: Paul Sorvino plays a detective Porter in this police thriller. Tonight, the policemen chase men accused of committing several crimes.
- 9.40 Incredible Sunday: a programme on the lines of That's Incredible. Tonight's stories are on training dogs to sniff drugs; the story of a courageous girl who performs in a circus despite her handicap.
- 10.30 Late Night Movie: "Full Circle, Again". The story of a scientist's obsession with research.
- 12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

FRIDAY

- 3.30 Holy Quran
- 3.40 The Sylvanian Family: new cartoon feature for children.
- 4.00 Italian Football
- 5.30 American Basketball
- 6.30 Star Trek: the starship Enterprise searches for a lost cargo ship.
- 7.30 Face to Face: a new feature for young viewers.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Breaking Away
- 8.55 Big League Soccer: Brian Moore introduces this sports show on English League games.
- 9.40 Weekend: local programme on news and views about Kuwait.
- 10.00 The Charmings: "Modern Romance". Comedy. Lillian and Luther place bets on who will make friends with the best-looking partner.
- 10.30 Desperado: thriller. Kidnap is the theme of tonight's episode.
- 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

Hawalli and Nagra
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Duaib Bldg., Othman St.
Fahadheel and Ahmadi
Ahmadi Pharmacy
Souk Ahmadi
Farwaniya
Al Tawar Pharmacy
Jara Commercial Centre,
No. 3, Main St.
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
New Commercial Market

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.10 Good Morning
- 9.15 Cartoons serial
- 9.45 World News via Satellite
- 10.00 Imraa Fi Duwamah: Arabic serial; part one. Starring: Aida Abdul Aziz, Salah Zulfikar, Tayseer Fahmi, Mobsin Sarhan
- 10.50 News Summary/Good Morning
- 11.00 Saghirat Al Hayat: local Arabic serial; part one; Starring: Hayat Al Fahad, Zainab Al Dahi, Hind Kamel, Dawood Hussein, Mohammad Sayyed Essa
- 12.00 Gulf Cuisine
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 Holy Quran/Closedown

EVENING

- 4.00 Holy Quran
- 4.15 World News via Satellite
- 4.45 Bambo: animated feature
- 5.15 Fanan Sagheer: young artists
- 6.00 Liqa Fi Al Zakira: historical serial
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.15 Noor Al Islam
- 7.50 Security and Citizens
- 8.30 Good Evening
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Daeat Al Ahadith: Circle of Events. Part one of series on oil



A scene from tonight's feature film Bates Motel, 10.30 pm, KTV 2

- 10.30 News Summary
- 10.45 Al Qaedah Al Dahabiya: Arabic play, featuring Salah Saadani, Athar Al Hakim
- 12.15 News Summary
- 12.20 World News via Satellite
- 12.50 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Duck Tales: cartoon serial
- 6.30 Scheme of Things: an education programme, it examines nature and wildlife.
- 7.00 Sea Urchins: "Lose a Few". A night raid turns out to be a nightmare for the group.
- 7.30 Throb: "Our Song."

Set in a record company, it is about a woman who tries to fit into the ultra-modern setup.

8.00 News in English

8.40 Our House: "The 100 Year Weekend". Can a modern family live without the electronic gadgets that are taken for granted today?

9.40 The Four Horsemen: "The Masters of War." A fine documentary on the war machine. Tonight, a look at arms manufacturers.

10.30 Made-for-TV Movie: "Bates Motel." Norman Bates may be gone but his motel lives on.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 30 Personal View
- 45 Recording of the Week
- 0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
- 25 Financial News
- 30 Classical Record Review
- 45 Book Choice
- 50 New ideas
- 0200 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 Network UK
- 30 People and Politics
- 0300 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 The World Today
- 30 The Vintage Chart Show
- 0400 Newsdesk
- 30 Here's Humph
- 45 Personal View
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Financial News
- 45 Words of Faith
- 45 The World Today
- 0600 Newsdesk
- 30 Meridian
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 From the Weeklies
- 45 Network UK
- 0800 World News
- 09 Words of Faith
- 15 A Jolly Good Show
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The World Today
- 30 Financial News followed by

- Sports Roundup
- 45 Personal View
- 1000 News Summary followed by Here's Humph
- 15 Letter from America
- 30 People and Politics
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Classical Record Review
- 30 Meridian

- 2000 World News
- 09 From Our Own Correspondent
- 25 Words of Faith
- 30 Meridian

FM Services

- 0600 Opening/Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1200 Arabic Songs and Music
- 1300 Easy Listening
- 1330 News on FM Service
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Spanish hour
- 1700 Arabic Songs and Music
- 1800 Pope
- 2145 Foys
- 2200 Indian Classical Hour
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Listening
- 0200 Closedown

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Beharun Qaul
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Jazbah
- 2000 News in Urdu
- 2020 Songs
- 2040 Dhanak
- 2100 Closedown

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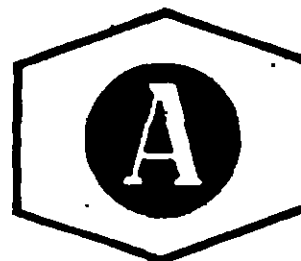
■ Collect 3 aluminium foils from Coast 2.5 kg. get a Clock.

■ Collect 4 aluminium foils from Coast 2.5 kg. get a set of 18 glasses.

■ Collect 6 aluminium foils from Coast 2.5 kg. get a wrist Watch.

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| 3- TB-126 Office furniture and supplies | KD. 8.- |
| 4- TB-127 Continuous supply of cloth partitions for one year | KD. 4.- |
| 5- TB-128 Mooring materials | KD.12.- |
| 6- TB-129 Fajlaka community antenna TV System | KD. 8.- |
| 7- TB-130 Demulsifier for hour crude | KD.12.- |
| 8- TB-131 Continuous Supply of kitchen cabinets | KD. 8.- |

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Kuwait & Dammam Office:
14-01-1989 to 25-02-1989
Riyadh Office:
14-01-1989 to 18-02-1989

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

MUSIC is the universal language of mankind — Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, US poet (1807-1882).

Unions hope Sadiq got the message

By David W. Jones

NAIROBI, (UPI): Sudan's powerful labour unions hope recent strikes and food riots will send a message to the government that many Western and Arab nations have been unable to deliver: end the bloody war in southern Sudan to rebuild the ravaged economy.

Sudanese Prime Minister Sadiq Al Mahdi would be wise to listen — the last such disturbances ended with the overthrow of President Jaafar Numeiry in 1985. But Sadiq has failed to make any decisive move for peace with black, Christian-led rebels fighting the imposition of strict Islamic law by his Muslim-dominated northern government based in Khartoum.

Sudan, Africa's largest country, is an economic basket case wracked by famine, floods and two decades of economic mismanagement. Annual inflation has run at 35 per cent for a decade while growth hovers around one per cent.

However bad the situation is in the capital of Khartoum, it is much worse in southern Sudan, where as many as one million people have died and tens of thousands face imminent starvation.

Hunger
Both sides use hunger as a weapon. The rebels mine roads and fields to starve out government garrisons. Khartoum withholds supplies for fear they will fall into rebel hands.

A UN official in Juba, the regional capital of southern Sudan, said in an interview last month that food aid from the West was necessary — but that increased Western political pressure to end the war was even more needed.

In this heated atmosphere, Sadiq first announced a 500 per cent increase last month in the minimum wage for one million government employees but then raised the prices of major commodities.

Those actions set off four days of strikes and food riots in which

two people were killed and dozens were injured.

The protesters demanded an end to the war, which siphons off precious resources needed for economic reconstruction, blocks the exploitation of oil reserves in the south and drives Sudan increasingly into the waiting arms of Libya.

Much to the displeasure of the West, Libya's leader, Moammar Khaddafi, is becoming Sudan's most reliable supplier of MIG fighters, cheap oil and other economic resources.

The Western powers and Saudi Arabia, Sudan's traditional donors, are holding back contributions out of exasperation over the government's failure to end the war and disagreement with its policy of trying to starve the rebels into submission.

The north-south rift, however, is deep-rooted. Numeiry ended a 17-year war in 1972, but his introduction of Islamic law — with its harsh criminal punishments, including amputations for robbery and stoning for adultery — sparked a new war in 1983.

The rebels, led by American-educated John Garang, appear willing to settle for limited autonomy, the lifting of emergency rule and suspension of Islamic law.

There is wide support for a plan along those lines, worked out by the rebels and the Democratic Unionist Party, which quit Sadiq's governing coalition during the recent food riots.

Sadiq endorsed the plan personally last month but balked at presenting it to his cabinet, where it would have antagonised another coalition partner, the pro-Libyan National Islamic Front, which insists on enforcing Islamic law.

A promised Dec 31 deadline for a constitutional conference with the rebels passed without fanfare. Meanwhile the war goes on, the starving people grow hungrier and the economy sinks deeper into a morass.

Afghan guerrillas prepare for the big kill

By Earleen Fisher

PESHAWAR, Pakistan, (AP): Afghan guerrilla commanders are making detailed plans for the capture of Kabul while their political leaders dither over what course to take as Soviet troops withdraw from Afghanistan.

"Political leaders are good before the war and after the war, but they're terrible in the war," said Abdul Haq, commander of the guerrilla fighters entrenched in the mountains overlooking the Afghan capital.

Like other key rebel military and political leaders who maintain headquarters in Peshawar, 35 kms (20 miles) from the Afghan border, Abdul Haq predicts Kabul will fall within a few weeks after the Soviet withdrawal is completed. The Soviet Union, however, has predicted that the Kabul government will remain in power, and has said it will support that government in the absence of a negotiated solution to Afghanistan's future.

Professing little interest in politics beyond the rebel manifesto that Afghan President Najib and his totalitarian party must go, the pudgy, bearded and balding Abdul Haq is preoccupied with maps pinpointing the installations he plans to seize and charts outlining a chain of command and specific tasks for the guerrillas, known as mujahedeen.

Collapse

"We know the regime is going to collapse. If we are not prepared, the country will be destroyed, the city will get burned, looting and the killing of innocent people will take place," Abdul Haq said. "Whether or not our leaders have a plan, we can at least keep Kabul city safe for them."

"There are about 200 targets we want to protect: ministries, embassies, the museum, fuel depots, fire brigades, hospitals, and how to provide ambulance service and food," he said.

He claimed 20,000 to 30,000 Kabul residents, including government officials and soldiers, already are working for the mujahedeen.

Regardless of the avowed

precautions, fears are escalating over what will happen in the coming weeks. Under a UN-sponsored accord signed in Geneva last April, the Soviet Union is to withdraw its last 50,000 soldiers from Afghanistan by Feb 15, ending a massive intervention that began in 1979 to preserve the Kremlin's client government in Kabul.

Connections

The three-weekly Ariana Afghan airlines flights to New Delhi are packed with families who have enough connections and money to wangle exit visas and tickets. They arrive with huge bundles and suitcases that Indian customs officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, say are crammed with jewellery, liquor, electronics and other readily cash-convertible items.

In the last decade, one-third of Afghanistan's 15 million people have fled to other countries, primarily neighbouring Pakistan and Iran, which have sheltered the mujahedeen, or Islamic holy warriors.

Now, with the Soviet departure appearing imminent, the spectre of a bloodbath looms large if Najib and his People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan are overthrown. Likely targets include top party officials, people who threw in their lot with the government, and members and agents of the Khad secret police whose widespread use of torture has been documented by Amnesty International and other human-rights groups.

Capture

Asked what Najib's fate would be if the mujahedeen captured him, Abdul Haq said: "We should put him in a (safe) place. We should not right away go and kill him."

Abdul Haq and other mujahedeen officials readily acknowledge they do not expect to march into Kabul without a fight and that non-combatants will be trapped in the conflict.

"In a war you cannot distribute sweets. Rockets will be launched. The civilian population is an obstacle in Kabul," said Masood Khalili, a political officer of Jamiat-e-Islami, one of seven Peshawar-based mujahedeen groups.

Egypt retraining Palestinian diplomats

PLO 'writing' constitution for new government

By Jane Friedman

CAIRO: The Palestine Liberation Organisation is taking a hard look at how to transform itself into a full-fledged government. The PLO has been stirred into action by positive reaction to the declaration of a Palestinian state and its new dialogue with the United States.

A PLO committee in Cairo has taken on the task of recommending how to turn the 24-year-old organisation into a government, and a Palestinian legal expert in London is making the first attempt at shaping a constitution for the new government.

In Cairo, the government of President Hosni Mubarak, working closer than ever with Yasser Arafat's PLO, has agreed to retrain PLO diplomats, many of whose offices are being upgraded.

According to Nabil Shaath, a close adviser to Arafat and one of four PLO members working on the transition, the provisional government will likely be formed within three months.

"We are looking at two pictures," said Shaath, interviewed in the Cairo office Palestinian publishing house he runs. "We are looking at what the PLO is now. We are trying to determine which of the structures will stay in the transition."

Shaath said this extensive examination has just begun but that certain ideas have already emerged.

Ministries
Most of the PLO's seven "departments," run by the 15-man executive committee, are likely to be transformed into ministries.

"There is no function that's not represented," said Shaath of the PLO departments, which include a political (foreign affairs) department, justice department (which handles cases of "misconduct"), military department, and a social affairs department (responsible, among other things, for pensions and 34 hospitals run by the Palestine Red Crescent throughout the Arab world). Additional departments cover education and the Israeli-occupied West Bank and

Gaza Strip. There has been some suggestion that the military department should not be transformed into a government ministry, but sources say the idea is still in an early stage.

In the more than 80 nations that have recognised the newly declared Palestinian state, the PLO intends to upgrade its offices to embassies.

"Our diplomats, 500 of them, need retraining in diplomatic history and protocol," Shaath said. "It's one thing to run an information office and another to be an ambassador. The requirements are new."

Retrain

Recently, Egyptian officials, meeting with three PLO representatives, including Shaath, agreed to retrain Palestinian diplomats at Cairo's Diplomatic Institute. The institute has long been known for its work with foreign service officers from developing Arab and African nations.

"We said 'no problem,'" said one Egyptian official of the task

at hand. The Egyptians present at the meeting were those working most closely with the PLO: President Mubarak's political adviser, Osama El Baz, and Ambassador Omre Moussa, a Foreign Ministry official.

The PLO is also seeking advice from Egypt on the legal and procedural steps needed to win recognition for the provisional government from the West and the United Nations.

"We don't have names of ministers," said Shaath. But he added that the committee believed "it will not be a government of technocrats, and it won't be a party government."

"It will be a government of national unity," he said, indicating that all major PLO factions will be represented.

A political statement, issued by the Palestine National Council in November at Algiers, said ministers should come from both inside the occupied territories and from the Palestinian diaspora. But Shaath says West Bankers appointed to government posts could be subject to Israeli

reprisals. Observers here, who know the PLO well, say they expect that the ministers would not necessarily be the most powerful Palestinians within the organisation. Many of the real leaders — such as Salah Khalaf, Arafat's No. 2 man; Farouk Kaddoumi; and Khalid Al Hassan — may continue to maintain positions of influence behind the scenes.

Power

Their power base could well continue to be the PLO itself, which informed sources say will survive the transition.

"The PLO will not vanish," Shaath said. "Perhaps it will be an umbrella of parties."

"Anyone who knows the Palestinians knows we will never have a one-party system," he added.

According to the Palestine National Council's decision in November, the outline of a provisional government is to be approved by the Executive Committee and then submitted for a confidence vote to the 70-man Central Council within six months.

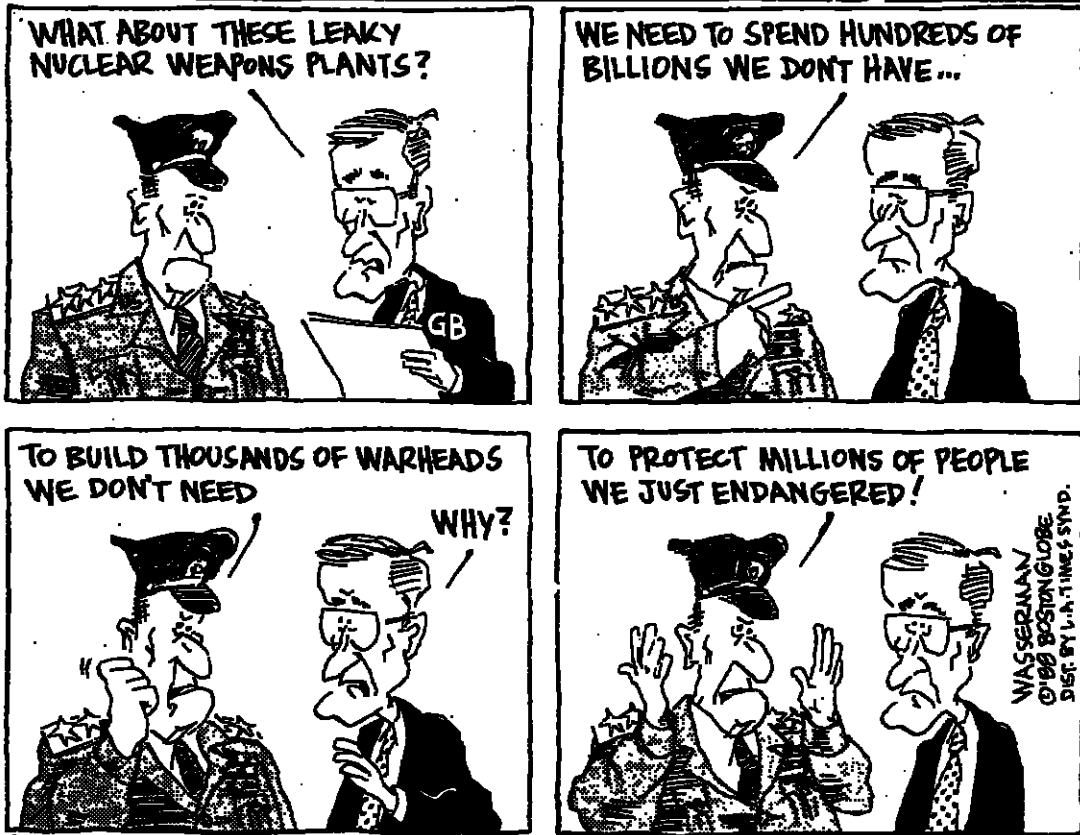
While working on the provisional government, the PLO is also campaigning to build support in Europe and the United States for an international conference on Middle East peace.

In the next meeting with the US, the PLO will press Washington on the international conference issue, as well as on "former recognition of the PLO and (Palestinian) self-determination," Shaath said.

However, the US seems to be backing away from the idea of the international conference in favour of elections on the West Bank and Gaza Strip and direct contact between Israel and the Palestinians.

"Elections can come when we're closer to a starting point," Shaath said, rejecting the US idea. "Everything is possible, including United Nations supervised elections in the territories. But these are not really needed now. Now we need to bring the Americans and the Israelis closer to a process that can bring real peace."

The Christian Science Monitor



Debate dampens reform and credit hopes for Yugoslavia

By Peter Humphrey

BELGRADE, (Reuters): The Yugoslav government's fall last month appears to have dampened prospects for liberal economic reforms and jeopardised credit lines from the West, plunging the country deeper into economic and political crisis.

"The reform package is now up in the air, and so are their relations with creditors," said a Western embassy economist.

Prime Minister Branko Mikulic resigned on Dec 30 in a tangle with parliament over soaring inflation — it was running at 251 per cent at the end of 1988 — public spending curbs, and the reforms themselves.

"The external books, the balance of payments, are in good shape. But the domestic economy is sliding down the precipice," said an embassy economist just before Mikulic's resignation.

Reforms

Three reforms, covering enterprises, planning and foreign investment, were adopted but 16 others, including those on banking, taxation, and accounting, failed to get through.

"It was the first time a Yugoslav premier has fallen from power since the late President Tito led the communists to control at the end of 1945."

The Yugoslav news agency

Tanjung said a new government was unlikely to be formed before the end of February, with Mikulic and his cabinet staying on as a caretaker administration.

Premiers are nominated by the collective state presidency. Yugoslavia's highest constitutional body, and endorsed by parliament. The procedure has begun and the nominee should be known this month, with the biggest republic, Serbia, strongly tipped to take the job.

Meaningless

The state presidency says the new premier must be a reformist, but Western and Yugoslav analysts remain sceptical.

"The reforms that passed are meaningless without the government that drafted them," said a Western economist.

"The new government will face the same problems but won't find its feet for months. It will be such a government that we have to talk to in June about the debt," he said.

Arrangements with Western creditors have to be renegotiated by May or June, when a one-year \$470-million International Monetary Fund (IMF) standby credit agreement expires.

Official newspapers say the fall of Yugoslav governments may now become a regular event. "It is not possible to form a government that will not be

blamed for everything, just like Mikulic's," said the Belgrade magazine Osmica.

Mikulic, in a defensive resignation speech, traced the economic malaise to the era of Tito, who died in 1980 after 35 years of unchallenged rule.

Inflation

Inflation had taken off in the 1970s, a decade marked by over-borrowing, over-spending and unprofitable investments.

Mikulic said the federal government was paralysed by the six Yugoslav republics and two provinces, which have powers of veto over federal legislation and which have blocked his policies.

He had served only two and a half years of his four-year term, but he had notched up an impressive 6.4 per cent export growth in 1988 and cut imports by 0.1 per cent.

He won a major rescheduling in May of the \$21-billion debt. Exchange reserves rose to a 10-year high of \$3.3 billion from a paltry several hundred million before May.

But he angered the people and the regions with the austerity measures he introduced in May, freezing prices, imports and the dinar, while curbing wages and spending.

Inflation soared to end the year at 251 per cent up from 167 per cent a year earlier, and 85 per cent when Mikulic took office in May 1986.

Incomes

Real incomes fell in 1988 to 20-year lows, sending thousands of striking workers on to the streets in protest for the first time since World War II. Their slogan was "we want bread."

Austerity and the power struggle over Yugoslavia's future aggravated ethnic rivalry within the multi-racial federation.

The foreign debt rose to \$22 billion as a result of rescheduling and new credits.

Industrial output fell by 1.2 per cent in 1988 as Mikulic imposed a restrictive domestic monetary and credit policy and pressured enterprises to pull out of insolvency or go bust.

Yugoslav critics increasingly blame the unwieldy socialist system and decentralised federal structure.

But Reagan also presided over the most intense and prolonged period of school reforms in the nation's history.

His first Secretary of Education, T.H. Bell, commissioned the 1983 report, "A Nation at Risk," that triggered efforts in most states to raise school standards.

His second secretary, William J. Bennett, made headlines pillorying the education establishment and championing parents' rights in public education.

The public responded to the alarms sounded in "A Nation at Risk" and the literally dozens of other dire-sounding reports that followed it by pouring more money into the schools. The average public school teacher today makes 45 per cent more than in 1982, double the rate of

inflation. But there has been little evidence to date of any dramatic improvements in educational achievement. More than a quarter of American teenagers drop out of high school. There have been only minor gains in scores on the scholastic aptitude test — which had fallen steadily from 1963 to 1980. And among major developed nations, Americans continue to bring up the rear in comparisons of students' knowledge of math and science.

Lauro F. Cavazos, the recently appointed secretary of education whom Bush has asked to stay on, said in a recent interview, "although we have made some advancements, we've fallen back in some other areas... we have not been able to stem the tide of dropouts. Our literacy numbers are terrible."

Problem
Cavazos is convinced the American people "may not have recognized the seriousness of the problem, or else they've gone out and done something about it."

Bush has said repeatedly he does not envision any massive new social spending programmes.

He has said the nation must spend "more wisely" on education, and he has said educators must be held "to the highest standards of accountability." He has voiced support for giving parents more choices within public education.

The cornerstone of his campaign promise to be an "education president" is a new, \$500 million "merit schools" programme that would reward

high achieving schools that have large numbers of disadvantaged students with unfettered grants of up to \$100,000. Bush has said it will be up to the states to set the criteria for choosing the winners.

Congress appropriated \$2.9 billion for the education department for fiscal 1989, or \$260 million more than its budget in 1988 when Reagan moved into the White House.

The nation's total education bill has risen steadily in the 1980s, from \$183 billion in 1980-81 to an estimated \$328 billion for the current school year.

Education groups say the federal share has not kept pace with inflation. The government, which kicked in more than 9 per cent of local public school bills in 1980, now pays just 6.2 per cent. Most of the federal money is targeted on programmes for the poor, the handicapped and students who speak little or no English.

Likewise, federal aid for college is also targeted on the needy, although middle-class students also benefit from loan subsidies and work-study programmes.

Bush has reiterated plans to hold a summit next year with the nation's governors, education leaders and others to discuss the problems of the schools and how to solve them.

Albert Shanker, president of the American Federation of Teachers, said, "it sounds like a conference at which he tells the governors that's their job." But he added, "anything that keeps education on the front burner is good."

Political parties seeking to emerge in colonial Hong Kong

By Dan Biers

HONG KONG, (AP): Political parties are struggling to emerge in this British colony but face formidable hurdles of apathy, public distrust and a wary communist China, which retains sovereignty of the territory in 1997.

Attempts to form the groups coincide with preparations by Britain to hold the territory's first general legislative elections, and China appears to have reluctantly dropped its opposition to such activity.

Analysts note the organisations will be different from Western-style political parties because they will not be able to form a sovereign government.

Instead, the territory's parties will be limited to trying to influence the outgoing British administrators and to pursuing whatever local power Beijing permits under the "high degree of autonomy" promised for this capitalist enclave after 1997.

Power

"The administration of Hong Kong will be in the hands of Hong Kong people, so in that sense we still have a lot of power," said Yeung Sum, chairman of Meeting Point, a pressure group of about 300 members that views itself as a party in formation.

In recent weeks, businessman Stephen Cheong and lawyer Martin Lee, both members of the Legislative Council, have announced plans to form political parties. Councillor Maria Tam's Progressive Hong Kong Society also is mentioned as an emerging party.

Those groups are expected to participate in general elections to

be held in 1991 for 10 of 56 seats on the council — primarily a forum to debate policy made by the governor and his advisers. The council now consists of government officials, government appointees and representatives of interest groups and local advisory boards.

The 1991 elections "will be run on party lines, I'm quite sure," said Joseph Y.S. Cheng, a political scientist at the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

Problems

But the groups will face huge problems in gathering support from Hong Kong's 5.7 million, who traditionally distrust political parties.

Families who fled to the colony from China tend to blame the Communist Party and Nationalists — who fled to Taiwan after losing out to the communists — for China's myriad 20th century woes.

"People in Hong Kong feel very comfortable with the status quo, and they are afraid of political activities, political confrontation," Cheng said.

Yeung acknowledged Meeting Point had not clearly declared itself a political party for so long because "all through the years people (have been) skeptical of the label." Cheng rejects the "party" label for his new group.

Some analysts feel that the group will have difficulty winning broad appeal.

Parties

"The mass of the Hong Kong people are more interested... in getting the kids to school," said political scientist Peter Harris of the University of Hong Kong in a recent interview. "Their understanding of issues is still in a very inchoate stage."

But attempts by civic leaders three years ago to form political parties stalled not from apathy but because of China's opposition, according to Lee.

That stance appears to have softened with the onset of legislative elections that China has promised will continue after 1997. Xu Jiatun, China's main representative in Hong Kong, said early this month that the new constitution being drafted for the territory effectively allows political parties.

Many of the emerging political organizations have not clearly stated an ideology and may be identified primarily by the personality of the leaders. Some of those politicians may seek to become Hong Kong's first chief executive, which will be the top local post after the British leave.

Stability

Cheong said his group will call for stability and only gradual political change, while Lee is the territory's most vocal advocate of reform. Three-year-old Meeting Point's goals include a high degree of self-administration for the territory after 1997, a central social security fund and more education subsidies, Yeung said.

Lee believes the major issue dividing the parties will be whether they speak primarily for Beijing or Hong Kong interests.

One big question is whether the Chinese Communist Party in Hong Kong, which now works behind the scenes, will go above ground to openly participate in elections. "That would frighten the industrialists away, immediately," said Lee.

Xu has said only that the future activity of the party in the territory required discussion and consideration.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1784 — United States ratifies peace treaty with England, formally ending American war of independence.

1809 — England and Spain form alliance against Napoleon Bonaparte.

1814 — Denmark regains lost territories, except Heligoland, in separate treaty with Britain.

1858 — Felice Orsini's plot to assassinate Napoleon III is uncovered.

1867 — Peru declares war on Spain.

1907 — Earthquake in Jamaica destroys Kingston and takes 1,000 lives.

1918 — France's former premier Joseph Caillaux is arrested for treason.

1942 — Forces under US General Douglas MacArthur resist Japanese attacks on Bataan in Philippines in World War II.

1950 — Mohammed Said forms Iranian government; United States recalls all consular personnel from China.

1962 — At least 36 Algerians and Europeans are killed in disorders and terrorist attacks in Algeria's major cities.

1966 — Indonesia closes its mission at United Nations as it prepares to withdraw from the world organisation.

1986 — Vinicio Cerezo is sworn in as Guatemala's first civilian president in 16 years.

1987 — Iran says its forces recaptured chain of strategic hills from Iraq in new Gulf war assault northeast of Baghdad.

1988 — Ten Palestinians are detained in occupied Jerusalem in apparent clampdown on Arab activists suspected of inciting resistance to Israeli rule.

By David Toop.

IN THE long shadows of the old mosque which overlooks Tlemcen, Cheb Khaled turns up the volume of a Barry White tape, pulls back the soft top of his black Peugeot convertible and heads off in the direction of Studio Rachid and Fethi to record a new song.

Tlemcen, a sleepy and conservative town in the north west of Algeria, surrounded by hills and less than 40 miles from the Moroccan border, is a most unlikely site for Algeria's only 24-track recording studio.

Late at night, the streets are deserted save for police cars. At closedown, television screens display extracts from the Holy Quran, but at Studio Rachid and Fethi the drinks are flowing and there is a party mood as yet another track is recorded for the insatiable cassette market that fuels the popularity of Rai music.

Hybrid

Paris was the first European city to acquire a taste for Rai, a hybrid of Algerian music with influences from Morocco, black Africa, Spain, reggae and the electronic colouration of new musical technology.

Throughout the Eighties, Paris has steadily grown in importance as a creative and business centre for pan-African and Andalusian music.

The additional presence of a large immigrant North African community in the Goutte d'Or quartier, along with the thirst for fresh exotica among chic white Parisians, has made the rise of Rai an inevitability.

For Khaled, the so-called King of Rai, Paris is a holiday, an opportunity to visit family, but it is also a rendezvous for musicians. He has found common bonds with Alpha Blondy, the reggae singer from the Côte d'Ivoire, and Mory Kanté, the Mali singer, whose *Yele Yele* was an international hit last summer.

Khaled has recorded with Elie Kiki Mitsouko, one of the very few French pop groups with any degree of international reputation. A project with Mory Kanté is planned, and *Kutche*, the hi-tech collaboration between Khaled and composer Safy Boutella, will be released in February.

Kutche is produced by Martin Meissonnier, the French-

A hybrid of Algerian music with Moroccan, Spanish and reggae influences

Rai rock: Algeria's musical export



The godfather of Rai: Rachid Baba outside his studio in Tlemcen

man who added modern studio effects to the records of Nigerian Juju music star King Sunny Ade. For Khaled he has assembled musicians from Zaire, Tunisia, Egypt, Algeria, Britain and the United States for an intriguing electro-ethnic stew.

The scenario is a familiar one. A vibrant local music, already a hybrid full of its own iconoclasm, yet with a backbone of integrity which is perhaps only truly comprehensible to the original audience, is thrown headlong into the international market place.

With each new visit to the market centres of Paris, London or New York comes new contacts, new influences, new techniques, new ideas about business practice or songwriting or stagecraft, and new purchases of digital samplers, drum machines or studio gadgetry.

Before too long the music arrives at a crisis point: the musicians forge ahead too fast for their home audience yet the new European audience is hungry for even more sensational fusions.

Rachid Baba has been called the Phil Spector of Rai. The comparison is not entirely apt

since it is hard to imagine the tycoon of teen, despite all his eccentricities, affecting the top to bottom Fidel Castro image of Rachid.

Possibly the presence of an army barracks directly opposite Studio Rachid and Fethi is an influence on this military style, or perhaps the militant periods of rock and reggae have played their part.

Inside the studio, pride of place is given to a large John Lennon collage and a photograph of Bob Marley. A star is encased in the double glass between the control room and the live room in which Khaled is singing his first run-through of a new recording.

Chaos

In the control room Rachid is at the hub of a chaos of music, gossip, subtle business dealings and occasional dancing. Fourteen people cram themselves into the small space: various helpers and hangers-on and family members, a shady looking cassette mogul with his wife, and a 14-year-old singer called Anouar who has already recorded a religious song with Cheb Khaled.

One of Rai's biggest stars — Chaba Fadela — sits against

the back wall talking with Khaled's wife, sometimes standing up to dance and sing, while her husband — Cheb Sahraoui — plays keyboards. As is the custom with Rai, Cheb Khaled introduces many of these participants over the opening keyboard bars before the singing begins.

Meanwhile, Rachid, the 42-year-old innovator of Rai, begins the work of shaping the speedily recorded raw track into a spacious mix of passionate vocals, synthesizers, Arab percussion, bass guitar overdubs, thunderous electronic drums and haunting digital samples of Japanese flutes.

Something of a one-man show, Rachid is rather imperious about other Rai producers. He will listen to the work of others, simply to make sure that the competition is still floundering in the past. He also claims to be too busy to listen to any other music, though the influence of Jean-Michel Jarre rises to the surface at times.

As a young man, Rachid played guitar in the group called the Vultures who specialized in cover versions of Rolling Stones songs. Rachid's father played classical Andalusian music on the rebab.

a two-string violin, but initially discouraged his son's musical inclinations, preferring that the boy joined the family workshop as a jeweller.

With his brother Fethi, Rachid enjoyed some success in the Seventies in a duo which played Western pop but sang in Arabic. During this time he took up keyboards and began studying the techniques of recording music. He was the first to bring a Moog synthesizer to Algeria, making Tangerine Dream style musical experiments. In the late Seventies he built his own eight track studio, again the first in the country.

"Around 1978, 1979," says Rachid, "when the young singers — the Chebs — started in Oran, a friend of mine came from Oran and listened to the experiments in electronics I was doing. He said to me: 'You should do something with these Chebs.' The first one was Cheb Hamid. He came to my studio and we made a cassette which was a big hit. That was the first time we put a sticker on the cassette which said Pop-Rai."

Pop-Rai, pioneered by Rachid and Hamid, Cheb Khaled and Chaba Fadela, with veteran trumpet player

Messaoud Bellemou, is a music that reflects the predominantly youthful population of Algeria. Khaled, now 28, began playing music at the age of eight, learning the harmonica, harmonium, and accordion in quick succession. He then switched to singing to record his first single at the age of 14.

By reputation a hard-drinking, unreliable and volatile man, Khaled in person is an endlessly good humoured character with a Lionel Ritchie haircut. "My father was a *flit*," he laughs. "He fought me and beat me. He wanted me to be a doctor, a lawyer, a magistrate. To be a musician was to rebel against society."

Given the serious rioting in Algeria last October, much of it in Oran, it is difficult to persuade anybody to discuss the rebellious aspects of Rai. But Rai singers have chosen taboo subjects, like sex and alcohol.

"Rai is not contrary to religion," says Khaled. "You're not supposed to talk about alcohol even if you come home drunk. The problem is to be able to talk about things. Now it is more open in Algerian society. In the past, the father would listen to the music and switch off when the children came home."

The word Rai means "opinion", and the modern roots of the music go back perhaps to the Twenties. Chaba Fadela is amused to be asked whether her parents resisted her singing career. "Many of the great original Rai singers were women," she says.

Fadela's reputation has been stormy, as if in homage to a strong de-voiced female singer of the Fifties like Cheikha Rimitti, whose songs about sex, virginity, and marriages caused scandals in their time.

What is important in Rai, however, is the quality of the voice. For Cheb Sahraoui, a conservatory trained musician, Rai singing is like the blues. Embellish it with new technology and cross-cultural experiments, but judgement will always fall on the voice. Rai was started by friends on the streets, playing for weddings and other special occasions.

"With technology or without technology," Cheb says with optimistic finality, "Rai will never change. It is our music. Algerian music, and we can do what we want with it."

Soap stars' duet remains on top in UK



Kylie Minogue (left) and Jason Donovan No.1 in UK.

LONDON (AP) — Australian soap opera stars Kylie Minogue and Jason Donovan topped the British pop singles chart for the second week in a row with their duet *Especially For You*.

Good Life by Inner City moved up one notch into second place, knocking *Crackers International* by Erasure into third.

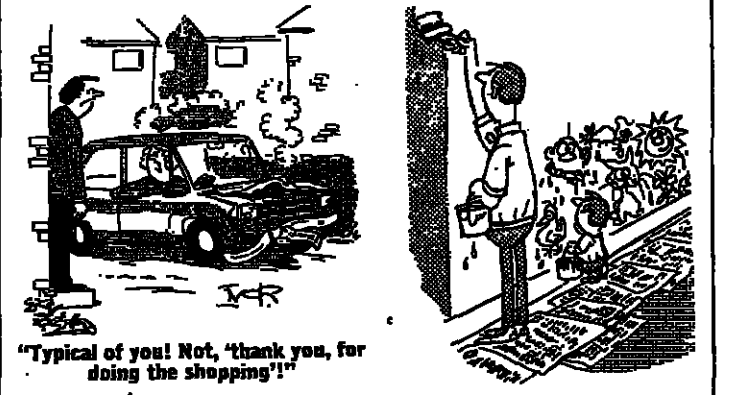
Making their first appearance in the top 10 this week are *Four Letter Word* by Kim Wilde, *I Love Your World* by Will to Power, *Waiting For a Star To Fall* by Boy Meets Girl and *She Drives Me Crazy* by Fine Young Cannibals.

Top Ten

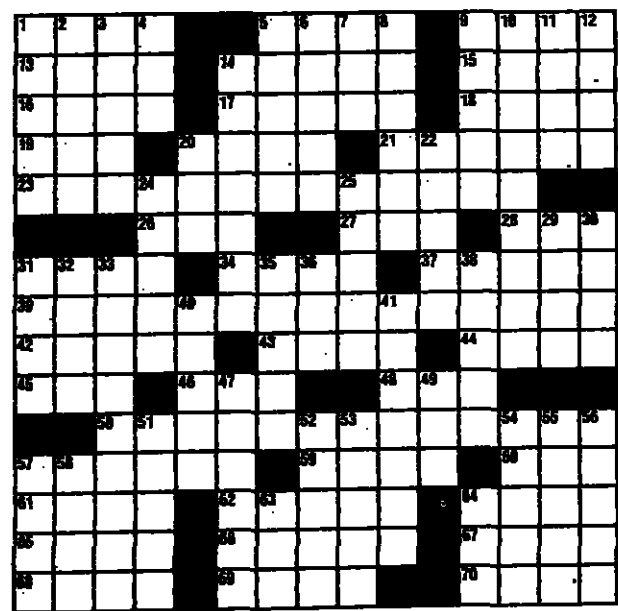
This week's top 10 singles, as listed by our Price Music Ltd, the national music retail chain, with

last week's placing in parentheses:

1. (1) *Especially For You* — Kylie Minogue and Jason Donovan (PWL).
2. (3) *Good Life* — Inner City (10 Records).
3. (2) *Crackers International* — Erasure (Mute).
4. (5) *Buffalo Stance* — Neneh Cherry (Circa).
5. (7) *Loco in Acapulco* — Four Tops (Arista).
6. (—) *Four Letter Word* — Kim Wilde (MCA).
7. (—) *Baby I Love Your Way* — Will to Power (Epic).
8. (4) *Suddenly* — Angry Anderson (Food for Thought).
9. (—) *Waiting For a Star To Fall* — Boy Meets Girl (RCA).
10. (—) *She Drives Me Crazy* — Fine Young Cannibals (London).



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- 1 Season
 - 5 Boat extension
 - 9 Slightly open
 - 13 Corner
 - 14 Military topper
 - 15 Rapurchase agreement, for short
 - 16 Sioux member
 - 17 Carryalls
 - 18 Absorb
 - 19 "the ramparts"
 - 20 Mata
 - 21 "Tristan and ...": Wagner opera
 - 23 School subject
 - 28 Asso.
 - 27 Gold, in Toledo
 - 28 Feathered neckpiece
 - 31 Mona
 - 34 Give off
 - 37 Lend and Wilander, at times
 - 38 Proceeding correctly
 - 42 Back areas
 - 43 Misplace
 - 44 Actress Merkel and namesakes
 - 45 — stow
 - 46 Transgression
 - 48 USN officer
 - 50 Experiencing a similar situation
 - 57 One of the Huxtables
 - 59 What — is new?
 - 60 "I — Dancer": Nureyev film
 - 61 Tournament of a sort
 - 62 Good-bye, in St. Lo
 - 64 In its present state
 - 65 "I — King"
- DOWN
- 66 Accumulated
 - 67 Villain's greeting
 - 68 Loch of note
 - 69 Mad as — hen
 - 70 1975 Wimbledon winner
 - 1 Bend over
 - 2 Soviet co-op
 - 3 Mrs.
 - 4 Arrowsmith
 - 4 Nancy Lopez requirement
 - 5 Water's edge
 - 6 Barbecue
 - 7 Area
 - 7 Luau instrument, for short
 - 8 More optimistic
 - 9 Garden area
 - 10 Popular munchie
 - 11 Footless creature
 - 12 Repetition
 - 14 Alternate
 - 20 Part of HRH
 - 22 Ermine, in summer
 - 24 — Ark
 - 25 Wool eaters
 - 29 Richard Harris vehicle
 - 30 Inquires
 - 31 New Jersey town
 - 32 Is part of the secret
 - 33 Colanders
 - 35 Winnie's creator
 - 36 Here — again!
 - 38 Bridge players
 - 41 Gets together
 - 47 "— Rhapsody"
 - 49 Cee follower
 - 51 Dressed to the —
 - 52 Left Bank river
 - 53 Alaskan native
 - 54 Watering place
 - 55 The Plain People
 - 56 Demi —
 - 57 Elevator route
 - 58 Weapon for Athos
 - 63 Grackle
 - 64 Gotcha!

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

MARSH BEET BRIE
ALPHA INRE GRIP
LAMAS STAT ROLE
WADSWORTH EWER
LANE EMENDS
MAPLES APRON
APAL TATE OLDER
REVERED ACREAGE
STOWE ACTH ADEN
EDEMA AFFORD
BAWLED CYME
EMIL MAKEPEACE
TINY OLLA BRACE
TEEN NEER LEMON
ESS DADS EDENS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
A SAFE, IF UNUSUAL, LEAD

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K 10 9 3
♥ K J 7 4
♦ 6 3
♣ K 10 5

EAST
♠ A Q 4
♥ A 10 9 5 3
♦ 9 7 5
♣ 7 2

SOUTH
♠ J 8 5 2
♥ Q 6 2
♦ A K Q
♣ A J 9

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 2 ♣ Pass
2 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: ?

In bridge, nothing is sacrosanct. An opening lead which would be considered insane in some circumstances could be completely safe in others. Here's a case.

North-South used a simple Stayman sequence to reach an excellent, though second-best, contract of four spades — we would prefer three no trump. Looking at his own hand, West was sure he would find little of use in his partner's hand. He was

tempted to lead a heart, but he was afraid that that might cost a trick. At the same time, he wanted to retain the lead in case a heart shift was necessary.

He found a simple, yet logical solution — he led the ace of trumps! Now anyone who, as a regular diet, leads the ace from an ace-queen combination will be looked on askance by the rest of the bridge world, but think about it here.

If South has the king of spades, the lead won't cost a thing — West will still come to two spade tricks. And should the king happen to be in the North hand, declarer is unlikely to play West for the queen, so her majesty is still a heavy favorite to win a trick.

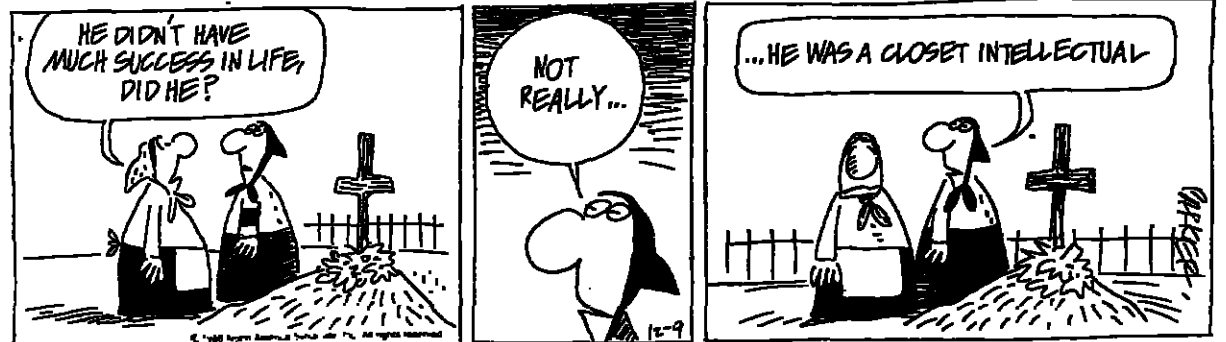
West considered shifting to a low heart at trick two, in case his partner held a doubleton queen. But he decided that it was doubtful whether South would have opened one no trump with only a jack in the major suits. His best chance, therefore, was to hope that East held a singleton heart, so he cashed the ace of hearts and continued the suit. East ruffed and exited with a diamond. Declarer won and elected to try to drop the queen of trumps — down one.



"Well, now we know what they meant when they said, 'You can't take it with you.'"

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

This is going to be rather frustrating day for you, try to take things as they come and do not expect too much. You must not do anything that would be harmful to your health. You should avoid all kinds of exaggeration.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will tend to tire easily so you should do what has to be done first and then seek to relax. Do not try to save money by skimping on essential repairs. What you are worrying about will probably never happen. Be loyal.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

A lot will happen today and you should keep your eyes and ears wide open. You will know how to make the right choice. Avoid being too ready to trust strangers. Be courteous.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

If you make a few concessions you will be well rewarded. By showing a little more goodwill you will be able to overcome animosity and resentment. You should not think time spent deliberating is a waste of time. Be magnanimous.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

There will be much to stimulate you but you must not allow yourself to be taken too much out of your way. If you have made a promise then keep it. However, be sure to apologize if you really have promised too much. Be fair.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

There will still be time for you to make amends for something you have done a little wrong. You will know how to take advantages of a good opportunity. You should try to avoid being envious as much as resentful. Be tolerant.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

You will feel a little more like your usual self than you have done of late. Spend a little more time tidying up some personal details. You should try not to be out on your own in the dark. Be patient.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You will find others more favourably disposed towards you and you should try to reciprocate. See to it that you are correctly dressed for the occasion. When invited do not stay longer than you are sure of being welcome.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You will find others more favourably disposed towards you and you should try to reciprocate. See to it that you are correctly dressed for the occasion. When invited do not stay longer than you are sure of being welcome.



Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19

A problem you have feared would be tricky will turn out to be far easier to deal with than your worst expectations. You should make sure you do not do anything too risky just now. You will be able to have a good laugh at yourself.



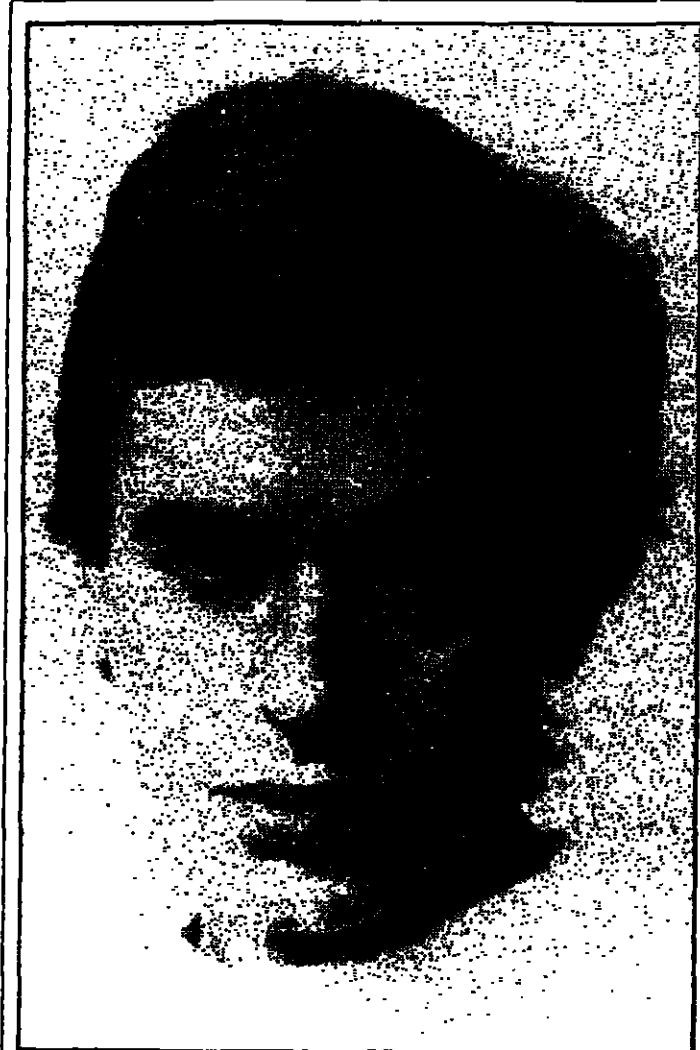
Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You will be able to do something a little unusual today, but should not go too far out your way. You should also make sure you do not spend more than you can actually afford. A little more commonsense will stand you in good stead.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You will better be able to get to grips with a practical matter. You would do well to do a bit more reading than always watching television in your spare time. You will have a good money-saving idea. Be benevolent.



Martin Amis (left) and his father Kingsley: both admire each other's writing in a rather detached way

A profile of the authors Kingsley and Martin Like father, like son

By David Holloway

INHERITED talent is much less frequent in the literary world than say, in the spheres of music and sport. Robert Browning's son became a sculptor. William Wordsworth's a bishop, and Charles Dickens' brood took off for foreign parts.

William Thackeray's daughter, a novelist, was one of the rare exceptions, though her output was relatively small and never seemed likely to rival her father's achievement. In this context, the joint fame of Kingsley Amis and his son Martin is all the more remarkable. It would be a brave man who would forecast "winner of the Amis clan will have the more secure place in literary history."

Favour

At the moment, one would favour Kingsley, but Martin is only 40 and clearly has many more books in him. The grounds for choosing Kingsley rest on the assumption that his "Lucky Jim" will merit at least a footnote in literary history as the work that popularised the post-World War II, non-public school, anti-establishment hero, who so dominated English fiction during the 1950s. This figure was also used by John Wain, Malcolm Bradbury, Alan Sillitoe and others.

Yet in no way are the Amises rivals. Almost everything about them, other than undoubted writing skill, is different — background, approach, interests and outlook. Kingsley, like his hero Jim Dixon, was a scholarship boy, the son of relatively poor parents living in south London, who worked his way to a London public school and on to Oxford University.

He did not come from an academic home and it was the English teacher at his primary school who, on seeing the young Amis' first efforts at poetry, encouraged him and guided his reading. At St John's College, Oxford, Kingsley

blossomed from the quiet swot into the comically abrasive character with whom we are familiar.

He was fortunate that among his contemporaries at Oxford were such outstanding characters as the poet Philip Larkin, and (under the pseudonym Edmund Crispin) the composer and writer of detective stories, Bruce Montgomery, who encouraged the zany streak in Kingsley's character.

Academic

After war service and a further period at Oxford, Kingsley became a lecturer in English at Swansea University, Wales — the academic ambience that, in Kingsley's case, was to be a disadvantage. Although this was an immediate bestseller, Kingsley did not give up his teaching post for another eight years. Other successful novels followed, notably "That Uncertain Feeling" — believed by some to be the most successful of all his comic novels — which provided the material for the film "Only Two Can Play," starring Peter Sellers.

After a succession of gently satirical novels, Kingsley became restless, and the middle period of his career shows him experimenting with the form of the novel. "The Anti-Death League" (1968) is a serious novel, discussing the nature of war; "The Riverside Villas Murder" (1973) an evocation of his own family background, presented in the formula of a 1930s thriller; "The Ending Up" (1974), a moving account of old age. There were also experiments with science fiction and even, under the pseudonym of Robert Markham, a not entirely successful attempt to continue the James Bond saga after the death of Ian Fleming.

Claims

Although Kingsley claims he has never favoured one political party, over the years his rather anarchic views have changed to the attitude of a rather crusty Colonel Blimp — the authentic English clubman, worrying about the young

whippersnappers who are promoting a moral decline, a man deeply knowledgeable about wine and spirits and passionately concerned about the correctness of English grammar.

Kingsley was commissioned to write a new version of the classic "Fowler's Modern English Usage" but abandoned the project. With the publication of "Jake's Thing" (1978) he aroused the anger of feminists by his male chauvinism. Indeed, it looked as if his popularity and sales were going to decline sharply in the early 1980s, but his return, in the "Old Devils," to a modified version of his early style — only now with the satire heavily mixed with serious social comment — brought him not only enthusiastic reviews but the Booker Prize (probably Britain's most prestigious literary award) for 1986 as well. His latest novel, "Difficulties with Girls," is a comic novel set in a publisher's office, which will clearly please those who cherish the Kingsley Amis of "Lucky Jim".

Outlook

Martin Amis' background, upbringing and outlook are greatly at odds with those of his father. He was born into an academic family, five years before "Lucky Jim" appeared, and grew up in a household of moderate affluence. Perhaps it was his experience as a child actor, playing a big part in the film, "High Wind in Jamaica," that unsettled him.

He was sent to a number of schools but hated them all and left, sometimes under unfavourable circumstances. The young Martin had no interest in books — he did not read even "Lucky Jim" until he was 18. It was not until he went to a "cramming" establishment, in the hope that he might win a university place, that a teacher managed to gain his attention and from then on, academically, he has never looked back.

He emerged from Exeter College, Oxford, with a better degree than his father, and immediately entered literary journalism. At 25, he was appointed poetry editor of the "Times Literary Supplement" and, not long after, literary editor of the "New Statesman," both in London, before committing himself to a career as an author and occasional journalist.

First novel

Martin's first novel, "The Rachel Papers" (1973), was a savage attack on human relationships and was followed by, the even more shocking, "Dead Babies," which, with all the force of the 17th-century Irish writer Jonathan Swift, used the conventions of the soft pornographic novel to express distaste for modern life.

Unlike his father, who always claimed to hate "abroad," Martin became fascinated by the United States, spending much of his time there. His "Money" describes, in fictional form, his love/hate relationship with American society.

More recently, fatherhood and a more stable personal relationship, after a number of rather spectacular affairs, have mellowed him. His most recent publication, a book of short stories, "Einstein's Monsters" (1987), showed a gentler approach. All the stories, set in a post-nuclear world, reflect the concerns of the generation born after the dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The preface to the collection, explaining this attitude, is Martin's most serious piece of writing to date, and may portend a different approach to life in his work.

Kingsley and Martin admire each other's writings in a rather detached way. Neither is a great fan of the other's work, but they remain close. In a way, this is a good thing, for the writing family Amis is a formidable force, the more so for its diversity — and the best may be yet to come.

By E. S. Turner

IT IS good to know that the compilers of this work feel occasional, if consistent, twinges of conscience. Is anyone thinking of competing for "the most prolonged continuous shower bath"? The entry which logs the present record (340 hours, 40 minutes) ends with the terse warning: "Desquamation can be a positive danger." (Desquamation: loss of skin by scaling).

No such warning accompanies the entry on fire-breathing, which includes the sport of extinguishing torches in the mouth, possibly because the risks of desquamation, and worse, are deemed self-evident. Under sword-swallowing is an italicised line: No further claims will be published.

The editor of The Guinness Book of Records 1989 does not want to hear of "gratuitously dangerous" feats, like jumping at low level from a helicopter in a strait-jacket, on a thin burning rope. One would have thought that driving a car in reverse from New York to Los Angeles and back was on the gratuitous side, but that feat was achieved in 1930 and is now part of history.

Even in these loose times Guinness does not admit record-breaking sexual feats, though there may well be a cabinet noir in the office containing boasts by the Mile High Club.

Notorious

The most notorious section deals with gluttony, under that heading. Here the rules have long been peculiar. Eating and drinking contests are "extremely inadvisable, particularly among young people." Then comes the now-familiar qualification:

"Gluttony record attempts should aim at improving the rate of consumption rather than the volume." In other words, bolting is fine, stuffing is not. Isn't time the editorial board did the virtuous thing and threw out the gluttony section, at whatever cost in sales?

As a source for settling disputes over what can be measured by stop-watches, scales, thermometer and the like the book is indispensable. Sporting records occupy far the biggest section, easily eclipsing those which involve the loftier

Guinness sets the record straight

Best-selling copyright book in the world



"Emaciated giants": the tallest woman in North America. Sandy Alie stands next to a woman of normal height.

might of the emaciated giant. All claims submitted should be measurable and comparable, but this is where trouble sets in. How does one check on the veracity of train-spotters and bird-watchers who claim to record numbers of sightings? Must they go before a commissioner for oaths? How do we know that Florence Foster Jenkins (d. 1946) was the worst

singer in history? "There is unanimity on this issue, we are told, yet the lady 'was never recorded for posterity'."

The unmeasurable creeps in again with an account of the greatest faux pas, "if measured by financial consequence", which is no more than an excuse for introducing a racy story about befuddled young American who mistook the fireplace for a urinal in his rich fiancée's family mansion; and with a claim that Pluckley, in Kent, is "generally thought" to be the most haunted village in England. (This apart, claims for feats of telekinesis and extra-sensory perception are given scant shrift.)

Feature

New entries feature the tallest living woman, "an emaciated giantess" (Guinness is full of rare words); the world's largest coat-hanger (and most useless object?); the longest soft toy (a 250-foot centipede); the biggest win on a one-armed bandit; and the most successful all-girl group, in terms of consecutive chart hits. The illustrations are bigger and better than they were in the old days; no more pictures of the world's biggest lake looking like a flooded gravel pit at Heathrow.

The book itself qualifies for a record ingeniously defined as the best-selling copyright book in the world, thus avoiding any clash with the Bible. No special attention is drawn to another in-house record, which appears in the entry dealing with the largest sum of bail extracted from an accused person in Britain. This sum, £500,000 (also required from Lester Figgott) was levied in "the Guinness PLC affair at Bow Street, London" on Ernest Saunders, former chief executive of the company, and other defendants.

Finally, let no one think Guinness does not share the current concern for the ecology. It may be that vast forests are felled to provide its annual print run, but anyone thinking of amassing the largest collection of conkers is warned that the publishers will offer no encouragement, "for conkers that are mightier than whole nutshells."

The Guinness Book of Records 1989 edited by Donald McFarlane. Guinness Publishing, 320pp, £9.95.

Sudan: Africa's worst recorded tragedy

By Ben Dobbin

LONDON, (AP): War, famine and floods are turning the destruction of southern Sudan's countryside into Africa's worst tragedy since colonial times, says a book by Sudanese relief workers and academics.

Foreign relief officials say at least 250,000 civilians seeking refuge from drought and southern Sudan's five-year rebellion have died this year of starvation or inadequate medical care.

Another 2 to 3 million people swell squatter camps in the north and neighbouring Ethiopia to escape the vicious cycle of floods, drought, famine and war, they say.

"It's probably building up into the worst recorded tragedy to come out of Africa since independence," said Jon Tinker, director of the Panos institute, an independent study group with offices in London, Paris and Washington. It published the book.

To illustrate the scope of the tragedy, the writers mention a military convoy taking food to a besieged town and arriving one month later with 27 people killed en route.

In rural districts, they say, livestock farmers or couples with crying infants live apart for fear of attracting plundering soldiers.

The book, compiled mostly by Sudanese journalists, aid workers and academics, explores the effects of natural disasters and civil strife on health, education, agriculture,

social and political structures, human life.

War Wounds: Sudanese People Report On Their War collects viewpoints of Sudanese from both north and south, ethnic Arabs and Africans, Muslims and Christians.

"The human catastrophe facing the Sudan is ... worse than the Biafra civil war in Nigeria, worse than the first Sahel famine of 1968-72, worse even than the terrible Ethiopian famine of 1984-85," Tinker told reporters.

The authors display "one unifying priority, one which Panos (institute) unreservedly endorses — that the government of Sudan and the (rebel) SPLA should now begin the negotiations which could end the conflict."

Fighting between government soldiers and the Sudan People's Liberation Army has virtually sealed three southern regions from the outside world.

A UN-chartered Hercules airplane, making the first of 50 planned trips, flew Wednesday to the embattled provincial capital of Juba carrying emergency food stranded in Uganda for three months because truck drivers refused to enter the region.

SPLA rebels want more autonomy for the Christian and animist south and an end to Islamic laws forced by Sudan's dominant Muslims.

The rebels have shot down planes and killed drivers of trucks carrying relief food.



The war in Sudan has increased women's responsibilities and some are now the sole bread-winners of their families.

Regional administrator Marcello Lado Jada wrote that relief agencies are forced to rely increasingly on the military to escort food convoys.

In June, six of 18 relief trucks were destroyed by land-mines and rebel ambushes between Juba and Torit, where an estimated 10-20 people were dying daily of starvation. The

convoy took four weeks to cover a three-hour route, and 27 people were killed on the way, five of them civilians.

"The food the convoy delivered probably helped Torit survive for another two months," wrote Jada. "But the townspeople knew that they would starve again, sooner or later."

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

GOOD TRAINING COULD PREVENT SPORTS INJURIES

QUESTION: My son is a wide receiver on his high school football team. He's a great player and very important to the game plan of his coach. I always fear that if he were injured, he would get back in the game too soon and really damage his chances of a future career. Can you advise me about the right type of treatment he should be getting on the fields and what I can do to protect him?

ANSWER: It's not an easy question to answer specifically, and it's not an easy game your son is involved in. It's a contact sport, and the violent forces that go into that contact make the likelihood of injury very high.

According to the National Athletic Trainers' Association, 37 per cent of all high school football players suffered an injury that required the player to stay out of action for the rest of the day in which the injury occurred. The best "ounce of prevention" for such injuries is a sound training programme that provides exercises to develop muscular strength, muscular endurance and cardio-respiratory endurance as well as speed, flexibility, power, agility, co-ordination and balance. Your next defence lies with knowledge-

able officials, who strictly apply the rules, particularly those concerned with player safety. Good coaching is a must, and most high school coaches are sensitive to the future aspirations of their players and consider those factors even in a hotly contested game.

On the field, first aid relies on four major principles. Any injured player must be removed from the game for examination and treatment of the injury. Appropriate first aid for almost all injuries includes rest (splinting if a fracture is suspected) and application of cold packs or ice to the injured area.

Ice reduces swelling and helps control pain. A cold pack or ice should be wrapped in a towel, applied to the injury for 20 minutes, removed for 10 minutes, and the cycle is repeated. All injured extremities should be elevated to reduce swelling and the accompanying discomfort. Any suspected fractures should be X-rayed and then treated.

In a game that is close, particularly where your son may be an important factor, even a father can be swayed by events. There should be one individual on the field who,

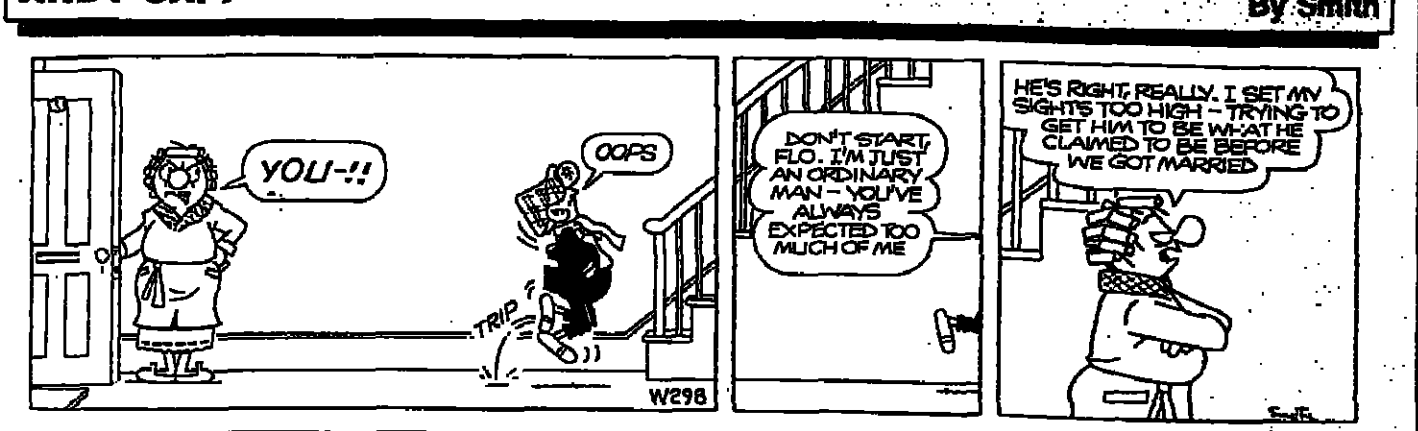
hopefully, is maintaining an objective perspective. It's the school physician who may be in the best position to assure that your son is treated correctly, and it's from this unbiased professional that you can obtain the best counsel, if an unfortunate injury occurs.

ACROSS MY DESK: The Journal of the American Medical Association recently reported on the ongoing debate concerning the preservation of live virus samples of the smallpox virus. Though the disease was declared eradicated by the World Health Organization in 1979, and though the last reported case occurred 10 years ago, two research sites still maintain ongoing cultures of this deadly virus.

The Centres for Disease Control in Atlanta and the Research Institute of Viral Preparations in Moscow are the last places on Earth where the virus can be found. In the possibility that future generations may need specimens for possible research, both agencies store the smallpox virus under rigid conditions of high security to minimize any possibility of spread outside of the laboratories.

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ANDY CAPP



By Smith

BUSINESS & FINANCE

French group seeks \$3.2b contract in Libya

PARIS, Jan 13, (Reuters): A French construction group said today it was competing with South Korean and Indian firms for a Libyan contract to build a water pipeline which Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi calls the "great man-made river."

The value of the contract for the 800-km (500-mile) line is estimated at around \$3.2 billion. Khaddafi has elevated the project into a national priority.

It aims to pipe water from vast natural underground reservoirs deep in the Sahara desert to densely populated coastal areas where water sources have been severely depleted.

Project
Spiro Agius, chairman of the overseas arm of GTM-Entrepose, said the consortium which also includes Dumez and a subsidiary of Compagnie Generale Des Eaux, was bidding for the second phase of the project which calls for a pipeline to supply the Tripoli area.

The contract for the first phase, comprising a 1,000-km (600-mile) pipeline to serve the Benghazi region, was awarded to South Korea's Dong Ah group in 1981.

Agius said he had no indication from the Libyans that his consortium was likely to win the contract. French television reported last night that this was the likely outcome.

South Korean overseas investment up

SEOUL, Jan 13, (AP): Direct investment overseas by South Korean businesses last year rose 34.6 per cent to \$480 million from a year ago, the Bank of Korea reported today.

The central bank did not say how much of the approved \$480 million, involving 253 projects, was actually invested overseas. Bank officials said local companies expanded their investment abroad to avoid bottlenecks in the domestic market and to take advantage of the Korean currency and sharp wage hikes.

Surplus
They also noted that the government has encouraged investment to hold down the country's growing current account surplus, which hit a record \$14 billion last year.

The United States topped the list of recipients of South Korean investment with \$230 million for 78 projects, followed by Southeast Asia with \$75 million for 118 projects, Latin America with \$22 million for 22 projects and Europe with \$19 million for 18 projects, officials said.

The cumulative total of South Korea direct investment abroad was listed at \$1.59 billion for 872 projects on an approval basis at the end of 1988, the officials said.

Anniversary of High Dam agreement

CAIRO, Jan 13, (AP): Egypt and the Soviet Union today celebrated the 30th anniversary of the agreement to build Egypt's High Dam, the largest rock-fill dam in the world, the Middle East News Agency reported.

MENA said the celebration took place on the roof of the huge dam and was attended by Soviet Power and Electrification Minister Anatoly I. Mayorets and his Egyptian counterpart Maher Abaza.

"The building of the High Dam was an Egyptian dream for a long time to protect us from the dangers of floods and droughts," Abaza said. "The High Dam will remain a symbol of Egyptian-Soviet friendship."

Largest
With Soviet help, the construction of the controversial dam was started in 1960 and was finished in 1968. The High Dam itself is a great artificial mountain, 3,600 m. (2,250 miles) long, with a base of 980 m. (3,215 feet). It is 111 m. (364 feet) high.

It is the largest rock-fill dam in the world, and the Lake Nasser it created behind it is the largest man-made lake in the world. The dam has been blamed for flooding ancient landmarks, increasing the salt content of the agricultural soil, holding back beneficial silt, raising the level of subsoil water and forcing thousands of Nubian villagers from their Nile valley homes.

However, it provides 30 per cent of the country's electrical power. And it saved Egypt from an eight-year-old drought which ravaged most of Africa. The drought ended last summer with average rain and floods.

Move to fund budget deficit

Bahrain to boost domestic borrowing

BAHRAIN, Jan 13, (Agencies): Bahrain said yesterday it would increase domestic borrowing sharply in the calendar years 1989 and 1990 to compensate for lower oil prices and limited rises in oil production.

Bahrain posted a 1.07 billion-dinar (\$2.8 billion) budget for fiscal 1989 and 1990 with a deficit projected at almost double last year's, the official Bahrain Gazette reported yesterday.

The figures reflected little change in annual expenditure with revenues projected at 870 million dinars (\$2.3 billion) — 430 million dinars (\$1.1 billion) in 1989 and 440 million dinars (\$1.2 billion) in 1990.

The annual deficit was

estimated at 100 million dinars (\$265 million) in each of the next two years, almost double the 60-million-dinar (\$156 million) deficit for 1988.

In an interview with the Arabic daily Akhbar Al Khaleej and its sister English-language Gulf Daily News, Finance Minister Ibrahim Abdul-Karim said that oil revenues represent 46 per cent of total treasury funds.

Prices
He said the new budget figures were based on oil prices ranging between \$12 and \$15.

"The price is expected to rise to \$18 a barrel and when it does the government will reduce the volume of its borrowing," Abdul-Karim told both Gulf

papers. Bahrain is not a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries but expects OPEC's new production ceiling in effect from Jan 1 to lift prices to the 13-member organisation's \$18 benchmark.

Bahrain adopted the two-year budget system in 1978 because of falling revenues and volatile oil prices. Last year, however, a one-year budget was adopted and specially tailored to cope with unstable oil prices.

Optimism
Abdul-Karim was quoted as expressing optimism about the country's economy and an improving atmosphere in the Gulf following the Aug 20

ceasefire in the 8-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

"We are entering a new era of confidence in the region... we are on track for future expansion, and for the first time in five years, we have reasons to be optimistic," the paper quoted Abdul-Karim as saying.

Bahrain's current oil production reaches about 40,000 barrels a day. The country is also a centre for refining as well as Gulf region industry and offshore banking.

In the 1970s, Bahrain concentrated on social welfare development, including housing, education and health, as well as infrastructure. But in the early 1980s, its economic priorities shifted to security and stability because of

the Gulf war.

"We are entering an era where we can strike a balance (among the three fields) ... for the first time," Abdul-Karim was quoted as saying.

He said education and health were allocated a 25 per cent slice of budget expenditure, while prices of basic goods would remain unchanged.

Abdul-Karim pledged there would be no increases in customs duties, power and water charges, but said that labour taxes, passport and immigration fees would be hiked.

According to the latest official figures, Bahrain has a labour force of 191,000, of whom 107,000 are expatriates.

Government cuts spending

Turks face lean times amid inflation, economic slowdown

ISTANBUL, Jan 13, (Reuters): Disappearing luxury goods and creeping unemployment are just some of the signs of an economic slowdown in Turkey as it grapples to bring down an annual inflation rate of 75 per cent.

"Some days we don't even sell one thing," said an angry upmarket store-owner in Istanbul, where luxury shops are buying less for fewer customers.

"It is crazy the way government closes (its) eyes for all these people suffering," he said.

Red-eyed, exhausted taxi drivers speak of working 18 hours a day in appalling traffic to make ends meet.

The government aims to juggle successfully with a falling growth rate, rising unemployment and an inflation rate which is now at the post-1980 annual record, a senior planning official said.

"Inflation is the most impor-

tant problem. Without bringing it down, I see no healthy developments elsewhere," State Planning Organisation chief Ali Tigril told Reuters.

"The main target of the 1989 programme will be achieving an optimal balance between growth, unemployment and inflation."

But he said "fine tuning" with government payouts or incentives was possible if a sudden drop in the growth of the gross national product (GNP) in late 1988 threatened to cut the rate below the annual target of five per cent.

Trend
"The growth trend is very interesting. A 5.2 per cent estimate in the second half of 1988 after a 7.2 estimate in the first half is a very dramatic development," Tigril said.

"It may even go below five per

cent. If this downward trend continues... we may take some new measures in the second half of the year to revitalise domestic demand."

The GNP grew by a heady 7.4 per cent in 1987 and 8.1 per cent in 1988 in an economy in which the state controls more than half of the production.

Economists said activity in the construction and manufacturing sectors slowed fastest in late 1988 as the government cut spending to curb soaring inflation.

Tigril said the budget deflator, the broadest measure of inflation, would probably settle at about 50 per cent in 1989.

A fall in the standard of living of most people is the main cause of a steady decline in the popularity of centre-right Prime Minister Turgut Ozal in opinion polls.

Spending cuts are the govern-

ment's main weapon against inflation. It has set a target budget deficit for 1989 for 4.5 trillion lira, lower in real terms than the 4.1 trillion estimated for 1988.

Tigril said Ozal was committed to withholding funds for new projects despite a test of political nerves presented by key municipal elections next March.

Export growth, a key to repayments on Turkey's foreign debt of nearly \$40 billion, slowed in 1988 in line with a drop in manufacturing growth.

Officials fear the slowdown will increase unemployment in a population of 54 million that is growing at a rate of 2.2 per cent a year.

Officially 1.16 million people in a workforce of about 18 million registered as unemployed in the first 11 months of 1988, up from 1.13 million in the same 1987 period.

Iraq, Egypt sign co-operation accords

CAIRO, Jan 13, (OPECNA): Iraq and Egypt have signed five agreements to co-operate in agriculture, electricity, industry, scientific research and veterinary services, it was announced here following two days of talks.

The accords were reached during a meeting of the countries' joint higher co-operation committee chaired by Egyptian Prime Minister Dr Atef Sedki and Iraq's First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan.

Co-operation
Speaking at a press conference, Ramadan praised the "model co-operation" between his country and Egypt.

Concerning his country's postwar reconstruction programme, he said Iraq would depend on its own resources to complete basic infrastructure projects.

American wholesale prices rise 0.4pc

WASHINGTON, Jan 13, (Reuters): US wholesale prices rose 0.4 per cent in December and increased 4.0 per cent in all of 1988 for the largest increase in seven years, the Labour Department said today.

Through the producer price index (PPI) showed the largest increase last year since a 7.1 per cent gain in 1981, economists say the acceleration of inflation has remained moderate so far.

In a separate report, the Commerce Department said US retailers had their best year last year since 1984, although total sales in December rose only a slim 0.2 per cent after two months of more solid gains.

Increases
Retail sales jumped 6.7 per cent in 1988 to \$1.61 trillion, after a 5.1 per cent gain in 1987, the department said. It was the biggest annual increase since

sales rose 9.8 per cent in 1984. The upward trend in the PPI is expected to lead to increased costs for consumers as the higher wholesale prices work their way through the economy.

Analysts had predicted a 0.4 per cent increase in the December PPI, which is adjusted for seasonal variations.

The index, which measures what producers receive for goods in various stages of processing, stood at 110.0 compared with its 1982 base of 100. It rose 0.3 per cent in November and increased 2.2 per cent in all of 1987.

Stronger
Excluding food and energy, which economists consider the core inflation, the PPI would have risen 0.6 per cent following a 0.3 per cent increase in November.

The US economy has been expanding for more than six

years and analysts are concerned that if it grows too fast, inflation will get out of hand and interest rates will have to rise.

But Federal Reserve Board governor Edward Kelley said this week that while the economy was stronger than expected, it was still an open question whether higher inflation would necessarily follow.

Traders said immediately after the PPI report that the modest rise would most likely be a plus for the stock and bond markets.

In December, price rises were recorded in a wide range of categories other than food and energy. Tobacco product were up 5.7 per cent while car prices turned higher after two months of declines.

Other price increases were recorded for women's clothing, light trucks, household appliances and furniture.

Oil and gas to account for 31pc of Indonesia's income

JAKARTA, Jan 13, (OPECNA): Income from oil and gas will account for about 31 per cent, or \$6 billion, of the estimated total revenues of \$21 billion in the 1989-90 Indonesian state budget, which comes into effect on April 1.

Presenting the 1989-90 draft bill to parliament, President Suharto said the oil and gas revenue estimates were based on a crude price of \$14 per barrel.

He said the income from oil and gas for 1989-90 would be about \$1 billion less than in the previous budget, but the decline would be compensated for by an increase of more than \$2 billion expected from the non-oil sector.

Oil revenues will amount to about \$4 billion while income from gas sales is to be around \$1 billion, according to Suharto.

Non-oil revenues are estimated to reach more than \$10 billion, while about \$5 billion is expected from development assistance.

Under the draft budget, the government would increase the salaries of civil servants and armed forces personnel by 15 per cent, the president said.

The budget, to be balanced under law, earmarks around \$8 billion for development projects.

Under routine expenditure, about \$7 billion will be used to service the country's public debt. The president said although the efforts to diversify the revenue sources were "quite encouraging", the role of oil and gas remained important.

"We still need a reasonable and stable oil price for economic growth," he said.

Shipping firm to open new line to Europe

RIYADH, Jan 13, (OPECNA): The Saudi National Shipping Company is to operate a new line to Europe as part of efforts to facilitate imports and step up exports.

Dr Mohamed Abdul Rahman Al Tawel, chairman of the company board of directors, said here that the line would carry goods from France, Belgium, Italy, Holland and West Germany to the kingdom and Saudi exports to the five countries.

Two vessels, "Riyadh" and "Makkah", will constitute the new line initially.

Twenty-nine per cent of the Saudi shipping company, which has a capital of \$534 million, is owned by the government, while the rest is owned by nearly 70,000 Saudi shareholders.

World Business Summary

Brazil seeks loan of up to \$4 billion, says official

BRASILIA, Jan 13, (Reuters): Brazil, the Third World's largest debtor, is seeking a bridge loan from creditors of three to \$4 billion, a Finance Ministry spokesman said today. He said Brazil's envoy in Washington, Marcilio Marques Moreira, was making contacts in the United States to try to arrange the loan. Brazil was also requesting a meeting in New York on Jan 14 on its bank advisory committee, he said. The Brazilian government this weekend is to launch a package of economic and administrative reforms to try to bring down its inflation rate, which last year was 934 per cent. The Finance Ministry spokesman said Brazil wanted to adjust two aspects of its debt policy that were currently expanding the monetary base and fuelling inflation. The government wants to suspend re-lending operations for the private sector. A debt accord between Brazil and its bank creditors last year envisaged total re-lending operations this year of \$1.7 billion. Also, Brazil wants to change the system of debt auctions that it began last year. Brazil has been auctioning \$150 million of debt monthly. No details were available on precisely what system the government would adopt in the future, but officials said the government sought to create a deposit mechanism within the central bank to ease the monetary pressure on the bank.

Bombay bullion dealers close shops for three days in protest

BOMBAY, Jan 13, (Reuters): Bullion dealers, jewellers and goldsmiths began a three-day closure of shops in India's financial centre Bombay today to protest against what they called harassment from customs officials. Shantilal Sonawala, president of the Bombay Bullion Association, said the closings in Bombay would also cripple bullion trading across the country. Sonawala said the protest was triggered by over-zealous officials trying to curb gold smuggling. "Officials are not only seizing documents from dealers but are insisting on producing the sellers of gold before them as proof, which is very embarrassing to the public," he said. Dealers were afraid of buying gold even from genuine sellers, he said. The price of gold shot up to Rs3,340 (\$223) per 10 grams on January 12 from Rs3,150 (\$210) a month ago. The record is Rs3,600 (\$240), reached in November 1987. India stopped the import of gold 40 years ago. India's annual demand has been estimated at more than 200 tonnes, with only a third of it met through re-cycled gold and smuggling accounting for the rest, trade sources said.

Booming Japan economy prompts higher wage demands

TOKYO, Jan 13, (Reuters): Japanese workers, already among the highest paid in the world, plan to press for even higher pay in wage negotiations this year. Organised labour announced demands this week for an average six to eight per cent increase for the annual wage negotiations, called "shunto" (spring labour offensive), starting in March. Economists expect actual increases to average about five per cent. "In this year's spring labour offensive, there is no reason for management to offer low wage increases because of very favourable corporate performance," said Yoshihiro Furukane, senior economist at Yamauchi Research Institute of Securities and Economics. Most Japanese companies have yet to announce their negotiating positions but at least one major steelmaker, NKK Corp., has said it will not offer any basic wage increase at all but rather raise its annual bonus. Most large Japanese companies offer bonuses of one to three months' salary once or twice a year. Some bonuses are based on company performance. Japan's largest labour organisation Rengo has set a target demand of an average six to eight per cent wage rise for 1989/90. The second-largest union association, Soko, plans to seek at least an average eight per cent wage rise.

Gulf businessmen set up industrial investment company

MANAMA, Jan 13, (AP): Businessmen from Gulf Arab countries on Wednesday announced they had formed a joint company for industrial investments with an anticipated capital of \$100 million. The group, led by Abdullah Al Moejel, secretary-general of the Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consulting (GOIC), announced the joint venture at the end of a two-day meeting in Bahrain. GOIC is a governmental organisation instituted by the governments of the Gulf Arab states — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain and Iraq. With the exception of Iraq, the other six are grouped in the Gulf Co-operation Council. GCC states have urged the private sector to play a more active role in the economic development as the price of oil — the mainstay of their economies — has been weak over the past six years. The investment company, initially called the Gulf Industrial Investment Company (GIIC), will be set up within two months, according to Hamad Abdul, member of the Bahraini Chamber of Commerce and Industry and president-elect of the overseeing committee. "The company is intended to boost the participation of the private sector in economic development as well as product selection for better diversification of industrial development in the region," he said. "It is in compliance with the policy of the GCC governments to involve the private sector in a more active role in the economic development so as to alleviate the burdens of the states," he added.

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To keep up the latest development in the field of office technology the new Kuwait International Hotel (formerly Kuwait Hilton) will provide the latest computer equipment to its guests. Hermann Simon, the new general manager of the hotel said 'computers will move from the sidelines to a central role and soon no business traveller can do without it.' The business centre at the hotel (above) features the latest facsimile, telex and computer equipment.

66/7	64/5
0	15/0
46/5	46/7
41/7	41/7

1/6	SERV CORP	17/7	17/6
54/1	SA STR PAC	18/1	18/1
23/7	SHRNS HUIT	18/7	18/6
15/6	SNELL TRAW	30/3	37/4
28/3	SHER PLOU	57/3	57/3
34/5	SMITH INT	9/0	9/0
32/7	SMITH DEC	52/4	52/5
60/4	SNAP ON TL	35/6	35/2
76/4	SOURCE CAP	37/2	37/0
10/4	SOUTHERN	20/0	23/0
31/0	SPAIN FUND	10/7	10/6
19/0	SPERRY	10/0	10/1
12/1	SQUARE D	49/0	48/7
9/6	STORE CONT	3/3	3/2
28/1	SUN CO	31/6	31/7
50/0	SUNSTRAND	52/0	52/0
42/2	SUNSH KTM	3/1	3/2
46/7	SUPER VAL	25/3	25/3
13	SOUTHWEST	21/5	21/4
25/7	SU GAS	18/4	18/4
15/4	SUN BELL	40/4	40/5
30/3	TANDY CORP	39/5	39/5
19/1	TOK	74/4	75/4
19/1	TECO EMERG	23/3	23/3
51/1	TEKTRONIX	21/4	21/5
8/1	TELETYPE	338/0	337/2
14/5	TELEX CORP	0	49/0
17/1	TERADYNE	12/5	12/7
2/6	TESORO PET	12/2	12/2
25/6	TEX AMER B	.09	.09
15/3	TEX EAS TR	29/6	29/6
4/6	TEXACO	53/0	53/2
29/0	TEXAS IND	30/5	33/6
4/1	TEXAS INST	41/8	41/6
0	TEXTRON	24/6	24/4
88/0	TIMBER BED	0	22/5
11/6	TIDWATER	7/5	7/5
24/2	TIGER INT	20/1	20/1
104/4	TIMKEN	36/0	34/2
17/7	TORCHMARK	31/0	31/0
19/1	TOSCO	3/5	3/8
39/4	TOYS R US	38/5	38/3
57/6	TRANSMER	33/7	33/6
54/2	TRANSCO EX	6/6	35/0
102/0	TRANSCO EX	3/3	6/3
20/7	TRAVELLERS	34/4	35/5
16/1	TRINITY IN	35/5	34/6
44/1	TY CORP	26/6	26/7
17/7	TYCO LABS	34/6	34/6
37/1	UAL CORP	111/0	111/6
21/5	UTD BRAND	16/2	16/4
42/0	UTD TECH	41/5	41/26
19/1	UNILEVER	59/2	58/2
32/0	UNION CAMP	34/4	34/2
22/4	UNION CARB	26/5	26/4
87/5	US SHOE	26/1	26/7
18/7	USX CP	31/2	31/9
11/1	US WEST	57/0	58/0
55/2	US AIR CP	36/4	34/4
17/3	VALERO EN	9/1	10/2
56/5	VALLEY IND	0	3/3
84/7	VANCO INTL	3/2	3/2
9/0	VARIAN ASS	28/5	28/6

DATE	3/5	3/5
HART	31/5	31/6
TIME	7:11	7:11


REEN	33/4	33/2
ER COM	37/3	37/3
ER LAM	75/4	75/4
E MAN	41/1	41/1
GAS L	24/6	24/7
Y INTL	6/1	6/0
CO	15/7	15/7
NGRSE	53/3	53/3
SES COM	7/7	7/6
MS C	31/5	31/5
MS C	0	5/6
CHAGO	9/0	9/0
W. OCA	11/5	11/4
	7/1	7/1

7	35/7	35
6	8/6	8

SARA LEE	21/7	KEROK CORP	59/0	58/6
SC ATLANTA	12/6	ZAPATA	2/2	2/2
SCOTT PPR	39/5	ZAYRE CORP	25/0	25/0
SCOTTYS	12/3	ZENITH EL	19/1	19/0
SE BANK CO	22/4	ZERO	18/0	17/7

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Commercial Bank 

1

VOLUME		ANEX HIGHEST VOLUME	
-	1/4	BLOUNT A	12 1/4
+	1/4	BAT INDS	8 3/16
+	1/8	KETENA INC	13
+	1/8	ANDHILL CP	20 3/4
+	1/8	INTL TELEC	8 1/4
-	1/4	ECHO BAY	14 3/4
-	1/8	ENERGY SVC	2 5/8
UNCH		MAGNA CORP	8
-	3/4	CONSTON CP	3 1/8
UNCH		TEXAC CAN	33
			1/8
			1/16
			1/4
			UNCH
			1/8
			1/8
			UNCH
			UNCH
			1/4
			4 5/8

CHANGE
15/16

+ 1/8	ANGLO ENER	2	+ 1/8
+ 1/8	BARRISTER	2 1/8	+ 1/8
- 1/8	TEXAC CAN	33	- 4 5/8
- 1/4	PSN COMMS	2 1/4	- 1/4
4,745,400	AMEX VOLUME	2,290,600	
02	STOCKS UP	129	
28	STOCKS DOWN	157	
135,428,100			
842			

10-10-68

...through a normal period of correction after heavy

International Bond Highlights

LONDON: The National Westminster Bank PLC said its US subsidiary will not continue as a primary bond dealer in the US treasury market in New York with the loss of an estimated 100 jobs. (KLH 1412)

The Bank of England said it bought a total of 500 million of two very short dated Exchequer stocks at its first ever reverse gilt-edged auction today. (CLPE 1241)

The Alliance and Leicester Building Society is issuing a 60 min gilt Eurobond due Feb 10, 1994 paying 11.58 pct and priced at 101.5/- 8 pct, lead manager Bankers Trust International said. (KLEO 1001)

Zurich — Swissair is launching a 150 min Swiss franc bond whose terms will be set on Jan 30, lead manager Union Bank of Switzerland said. (KLEO 0813)

Tokyo — The Financial Ministry plans to sharply increase the issue volume of Tankoku (government discount paper of maturities up to six months) in fiscal 1989. (KLEO 0850)

Singapore — Overseas-Chinese Banking Corp Ltd said it proposed to issue 200 min Singapore dollars in fixed rate negotiable certificates of deposit (NCDs) with warrants entitling holders to subscribe for new one-dt shares in OCBC. (KLEO 1018)

Luxembourg — The European Investment Bank announced a second major loan to help Spain modernize and develop its telecommunications network. (KLHN 1418)

Brussels — Belgium has no plans to replace a 400 min dt Eurobond that it has called early and will finance repayment through short term loans for the moment. (KLEO 1048)

Brazil — Brazil is seeking a bridge loan from creditors of three to four billion dls, a Finance Ministry spokesman said. (KLFL 1301)

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 13 12-3/4	13-1/8 13	13-1/4 1/8
FF 4.90/5.00	5.45/5.50	5.50/60
PAR 8-3/8 1/2	8-3/8 1/2	8-7/16 9/16
ZUR 4-3/8 4-5/8	5-1/8 5-3/8	5-3/8 5-5/8
BRX 7.35	7-3/8 7/16	7-9/16 5/8
ROM 11-1/4 11-3/4	11-3/4 12-1/4	11-5/8 12-1/8
AMS 5.25/40	5.80/90	5.93/03
TOK 3.7500 8125	4.2500 3125	4.5000 5625
ECU 7.62 7.87	7.87 8.00	8.12 8.25

Interest Rates

Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	7-9/16	8-1/16
3 months	7-13/16	8-1/16
6 months	7-13/16	8-5/16
1 year	7-7/8	8-3/8

BOMBAY

PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	76.50	73	73.50	NICO	610	600	590
ACC 328	320	323	GRASIN	55	53.50	54.50	MUKAND	95	94	93
ASIA PAINT 217.50	215	216.25	HSFC	146.25	146.25	146.25	OKAY	26	25	25.50
BAJAJ AUTO 403.75	400	398.75	HIND LEVER	72	70	71	PEICO	24	24	25
BAR. RAYON 325	320	320	HINDALCO	165.50	164	164	PFIZER	67	65	68
BOM. DYING 121	118	119	HINDOCOCA	106.25	102.50	103.75	PRE. AUTO	46.25	45.50	45
BR. BOND 104	102	104	HINDOTRAC	28.75	28.25	28.25	RAYMOND	73	72	73
BSE INDEX 656.24	652.24	652.24	IND ORG	43.50	43	43	RELIANCE	137.50	133	134
CENTURYSPG 1335	1320	1330	INDRAYON	84.25	83	83.50	SIEMENS	84	82	84
COLGATE 307.50	305	305.75	INDROL	263.75	260	260	SPIC	52	52	51
DESPACERT 44	43	42	ITC	49	47	48	STOWILLS	255	245	245
EL. HOTEL 57.50	55	57.50	JASYNTH	84.50	83	83.20	TATA PIR	372.50	356.50	360
EMAYEF 137.50	136.25	133.75	L AND T	124	123.75	122	TATACHEN	109	106.50	106.50
ESSAN 25.50	25	25.25	MATINDRA	83	81	81	TELCO	712.50	705	702.50
GAR. POLY 87.50	87.50	85	MATERSHIR	16	15.50	15.75	TISCO	1146	1137.5	1138.7
GE. SHIP 39	38.50	38.25	MATHER PL	60	60	62.50	VOLTA	520	510	520

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR. CLOSE
ALC 198.5	199.2
ALFA ROMEO 1905.0	1938.9
BADENWERT 181.8	180.0
BAF 287.5	288.5
BAV 307.3	308.8
BAV. RY 398.4	398.0
BAYER VER 409.0	407.0
BBC 364.0	367.0
BIF 435.0	431.0
BMW 530.0	537.5
COMMERZBK 249.8	247.0
CONTI GUMM 269.5	272.5
DATMER BEN 734.5	747.0
DEUTSCH BAK 574.0	575.8
DLW 452.0	461.0
DRESNER B 317.0	316.5
FZ BARCOCK 154.8	154.0
FZ INDEX 565.12	566.49
FEUERHUT 208.0	207.0
GOULD 206.0	208.0
HANSEATIC 330.0	328.0
HARVEST AG 305.7	307.7
HESCH 188.7	189.0
HORTEN 225.0	226.0
HUSSEL HLD 459.0	461.0
KALI SALZ 186.7	187.0
KARSTADT 427.0	425.0
KAUFHOFF 414.0	418.5
KLOECK H 132.0	134.0
KLOECK W 133.0	134.0
LINDE 761.0	770.0
LUFTHANSA 155.8	155.5
MAN 247.0	243.8
MANHESSEN 211.5	211.5
MERCEDES 590.5	602.0
METALLGES 379.5	385.0
NIDORFF PF 325.0	330.0
NORCK HYD 37.80	36.60
PHILIP KOP 675.0	674.9
PORSCHE 634.0	625.5
PREUSSAG 210.5	209.5
PIA 265.0	262.5
RHEINMETAL 431.5	432.0
RHE 229.5	225.7
RAE P 215.0	212.0
SALAMANDER 345.0	345.0
SCHERING 604.5	596.0
SEL 287.0	286.5
SIEMENS 545.5	549.7
THYSEN 194.0	193.5
VARTA 344.0	341.0
VERA 277.8	278.0
VEW 169.3	169.3
VOLKSWAGEN 345.0	346.5

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR. CLOSE
C N TUNNEL 15.20	15.50
CHUNG K 8.70	8.80
CHINA GAS 18.50	18.40
CHINA L-P 14.70	15.10
CHINA MOTR 24.70	25.00
COSMO IND 3.85	3.90
EVERGOLD 2.75	2.85
FAR EAST C 9.1	9.0
GEN ORIENT 9.45	9.30
H C DEVELOP 843.98	879.33
H S INDEX 5.80	5.90
HANG LUNG 29.90	30.25
HAN PAR BR 11.60	11.60
HK ELEC CO 7.35	7.50
HK KAMCO 9.30	9.40
HK LAND CO 9.65	9.75
HK SHAN BK 6.75	6.85
HK SHAN HT 5.95	6.00
HK TELE CO 5.25	5.35
HUTCH MAN 9.30	9.35
IND EQ PAC 10.30	9.95
JARDINE N 16.00	16.10
KOALCOON M 9.10	9.10
MEV WORLD 13.70	13.90
PAUL Y CO 1.38	1.39
REALITY DEV 7.40	7.40
S H K CO 2.20	2.25
S H K PROP 13.50	13.70
SINE DARY 2.47	2.45
STELLUX NFG 2.72	2.72
SHIRE PAC 19.70	20.00
T V CO 1.29	1.29
TAT CHEUNG 4.30	4.40
UNION BANK 1.65	1.66
WOCK MARI 0	7.25
WOCK NARI 0	1.15
WORLD INTL 4.40	4.48

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST PR. CLOSE
AIJINOMOTO 2940	2960
AKAI ELEC 695	681
AKI 1110	1080
ASAHI GLS 2040	2020
ASAHI OPT 720	733
BANK TOKYO 1680	1710
BRIDGESTON 1420	1420
CANON 1550	1510
CASTO COMP 1360	1360
CHUGAI PHM 1640	1660
CITIZEN W 939	946
D-ICHI KAN 3500	3500
DAI NIP IK 895	890
DAI NIP PT 2680	2680
DAI NIP SC 990	983
DAI NIP TO 920	920
DAICEL 889	891
DAIWA SEC 2680	2680
DAIWA SEC 1250	1250
DAIWA SEC 2180	2180
FUJITSU 1560	1560
FUJII BANK 3800	3770
FUJII PHOTO 3720	3740
FUJISAWA 1870	1990
FUJITA CP 992	980
HITACHI 1680	1650
HONDA MOT 2170	2160
ISETAN 2420	2440
ITO YOKADA 4600	4600
JAP SYN RY 1200	1110
JAPAN AIR 16900	16900
JAPAN NET 765	780
KAJIMA 1830	1840
KANSAI ET 5480	5230
KAO SOAP 1780	1770
KAWASAKI H 966	970
KAWASAKI S 1020	1040
KIRIN BEV 1980	1980
KOMATSU 998	975
KYOCERA 930	915
KYOCERA 5110	5150
NAKITA EL 1600	1590
NAKITA EL 3150	3160
NATSUBA ET 2610	2590
NATSUBA EL 0	2660
NEIJI SEIK 989	984
NITSUBU CP 1500	1500
NITSUBU EL 1120	1090
NITSUBU EST 2680	2680
NITSUBU HY 1180	1140
NITSUBU IO 1080	1080
NITSUBU KSH 2270	2270
NITSUBU EL 0	1020
NITSUBU EL 1300	1260
NITSUBU CHMT 1020	1020
NITSUBU SEC 2180	2130
NIP ELEC 1990	1990
NIP KOKKAN 995	984
NIP OIL 1570	1560
NIP STEEL 935	936
NIP YUSEN 907	894
NIS MOTOR 1280	1270
NOMURA SEC 4080	4070
ONDA CO 960	940
OLYMPIUS 1130	1140
PENTA OCM 1010	1000
PIONEER 3370	3380
REDAIR 945	950
RYOON 1210	1200
SANKYO 2440	2470
SANYO ELEC 797	795
SEIYU ST 2190	2200
SEKISUI PI 1880	1870
SHARP 1170	1170
SHISEIDO 1770	1780
SONY 7420	7440
SUMITOMO 1380	1410
TAISEI 1250	1220
TAISHO MHN 1390	1400
TAKEDA CH 2750	2800
TEIJIN 855	850
TOE NEW IX 457.58	445.82
TOKIO MHN 2300	2290
TOKYO ELEC 1300	1260
TOKYO GAS 1340	1370
TOKYO PAOR 7420	7250
TORAY IND 935	935
TOSHIBA EL 1090	1060
TOTO 2040	2040
TOTO KOGY 767	762
TOYOTA MOT 2650	2620
YAMAHA 1330	1330
YAMAMOTO 2120	2090
YAMAMOTO 4170	4220
YAMAZAKI 1450	1450

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS END WEEK AT RECORD CLOSING LEVEL. TOKYO, JAN 13, REUTER - SHARE PRICES ENDED HIGHER, WITH THE MAIN INDEX AT A RECORD CLOSE, AFTER A WEEK OF STRONG GAINS ON BULLISH SENTIMENT LINKED TO THE START OF A NEW IMPERIAL ERA IN JAPAN, BROKERS SAID.

"SENTIMENT IS POSITIVE AND MARKETS AROUND THE WORLD LOOK GOOD," SAID ONE. "THE HOURING PERIOD FOR THE EMPEROR IS OVER AND BROKERS HAVE BEEN DEALING HEAVILY ON THEIR OWN BOOKS."

THE NIKKEI INDEX ROSE 154.93 POINTS, OR 0.50 PCT, TO A RECORD CLOSE OF 31,298.38. IT CLOSED UNCHANGED ON THURSDAY AT THE PREVIOUS RECORD CLOSE SET ON WEDNESDAY OF 31,143.45.

THE INDEX SURGED 1,088.84 POINTS OR 3.60 PCT THIS WEEK. THE NIKKEI ALSO HIT A NEW TRADED HIGH OF 31,321.02 POINTS IN LATE AFTERNOON, SURPASSING THE PREVIOUS RECORD OF 31,243.27 SET ON JANUARY 11.

EMPEROR HIROHITO DIED ON SATURDAY AND WAS SUCCEEDED ON SUNDAY BY HIS SON AKIHITO, REMOVING A CLOUD THAT HAD HUNG OVER THE MARKET SINCE MID-SEPTEMBER.

SOME INSTITUTIONS SLIGHTLY RESTRAINED THEIR TRADING OUT OF RESPECT THIS WEEK, BUT MAJOR BROKERAGES WERE ACTIVE TODAY, BROKERS SAID. THE PENT-UP ENERGY BROUGHT VOLUME TO ITS HIGHEST LEVEL IN OVER TWO MONTHS WITH A TOTAL OF 1.8 BILLION SHARES CHANGING HANDS AGAINST 1.2 BILLION ON THURSDAY.

THE FIRST SET INDEX, OR TOPIX, ROSE 11.76 POINTS TO A RECORD CLOSE OF 2,457.58 AFTER GAINING 3.27 POINTS TO THE PREVIOUS RECORD OF 2,445.82 ON THURSDAY.

RISES LED FALLS BY SEVEN TO FIVE WITH 533 ISSUES HIGHER, 383 LOWER AND 174 UNCHANGED.

THE BIGGEST WINNERS WERE SECURITIES HOUSE, WAREHOUSE, REAL ESTATE, ELECTRIC POWER, SERVICE INDUSTRY, CONSTRUCTION, BANK, CHEMICAL, SHIPPING AND AUTO STOCKS.

THE MAIN LOSERS WERE PHARMACEUTICAL, COMMUNICATIONS, PULP/PAPER, NON-LIFE INSURANCE, CREDIT/LEASE, AIRLINE, RAILWAY/BUS, ELECTRICAL, ROLLING STOCK AND STEEL SHARES.

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, JAN 13, REUTER - SHARE PRICES CLOSED AT THE DAY'S LOW ON PROFIT-TAKING AFTER FOUR CONSECUTIVE POST-CRASH HIGHS, BROKERS SAID.

THE HANG SENG INDEX ENDED THE DAY 35.35 POINTS LOWER AT 2,843.98. THE BROADER-BASED HONG KONG INDEX LOST 23.25 TO 1,875.07. TURNOVER SHRANK TO 1.40 BILLION H.K. DLS FROM THURSDAY'S 1.83 BILLION.

"IT WAS AN EXPECTED CORRECTION AFTER THE 190-POINT GAIN SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR," A STOCK ANALYST WITH A U.K. HOUSE SAID. "BUT THE MARKET REMAINS SOLID ON BUYING AT LOWS AND BARGAIN-HUNTING."

AMMAN

As of 11.1.89	OPNG	CLSG	JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.64	2.65
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	1.59	1.57	JOR PAPER CARDBRKG	3.60	3.50
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	2.06	2.05	JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	3.70	3.65
ARAB BANK	141.5	142.5	JOR PIPES MANUFACT	1.55	1.53
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER	4.25	4.40	JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	1.90	1.90
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	2.44	2.41	JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25	4.40
ARAB INSURANCE	1.05	1.00	JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	0.94	0.93
ARAB INT. INV/TRAD.	0.98	0.98	JOR SECURIT CORP	0.92	0.92
ARAB INT. UNION INS	1.21	1.25	JOR SELPHO CHEM.	2.73	2.74
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.58	0.58	JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	1.58	1.57
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK	2.50	2.45	JOR WORSTED MLL	5.00	5.00
ARAB PAPER CO/TRD	0.33	0.34	JOR. KUWAIT AGR	0.94	0.91
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.	2.35	2.34	JOR. PETROLIUM REF	8.65	8.63
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	0.76	0.75	JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.45	5.45
ARAB POTASH CO.	---	---	JOR. INV. FIN. CORP.	2.41	2.45
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65	JORDANIAN GULF REAL	0.46	0.44
BANK OF JORDAN	15.25	15.25	JORDAN DAIRY	1.03	1.02
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95	JORDAN GULF BANK	1.24	1.22
CATRO AMMAN BANK	29.00	29.00	JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25	JORDAN INSURANCE	13.85	13.94
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.56	0.56	JORDAN ISLAMIC BNK	1.88	1.85
DAR ALDAHA DV/INV.	2.22	2.21	JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.46	1.47
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.84	0.80	JORDAN TANNING	2.10	2.15
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.56	0.56	LIVESTOCK/POLTRY	0.74	0.71
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	4.65	4.60	NACH/EQU/REPM/MAIN	0.78	0.78
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63	NACH/REPAIR/REPL	0.78	0.78
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.34	1.30	NIDDEL EAST HOTEL	0.60	0.60
GENERAL MINING	1.45	1.45	MIDDEL EAST INS	60.00	60.00
HIMMER MINERALS	0.75	0.75	MINERALS RESEARCH	0.74	0.75
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44	NAT. FIN. INVEST CO	2.17	2.06
IND. MATCH JEMCO	0.67	0.67	NAT/CABLE/WIRE/AF	1.22	1.21
INDSTR. DEVLPT BNK	1.62	1.62	NATIONAL AEM/INS	1.38	1.38
INDSTR./COMM/AGR.	1.56	1.52	NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.46	0.45
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75	NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.86	0.85
INTERN. COMM/INV	0.13	0.13	NATIONAL STEEL	2.96	2.95
IRSID ELECTRICITY	0.95	0.92	ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.28
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64	PETRA BANK	2.37	2.35
ITERMED/PETRI/CH	1.53	1.51	PETRA JOR. INS.	0.35	0.33
J. TOUR-SP. COMPLEX	0.79	0.80	PHILADELPHIA INS.	1.1	1.08
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29	REAL ESTATE INS.	0.86	0.85
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	20.00	19.50	REAL ESTATE INV.	0.65	0.65
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	1.45	1.66	SHIPPING LINES	0.95	0.94
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.01	25.05	SPINNING WEAVING	0.97	0.96
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.70	1.69	THE HOUSING BANK	1.90	1.90
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.22	UNITED INSURANCE	1.25	1.20
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.00	1.00	UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	3.01	3.02
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.50	2.30	UNIVERSAL INS.	0.68	0.68
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	2.55	2.58	WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.86	0.86
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20	YARMOUK INSURANCE	1.35	1.31

UK shares off highs

Dollar strength harnessed by bank intervention

LONDON, Jan 13, (Reuters): Central banks hit the dollar with more concerted open market intervention today as soon as it looked like resuming a speculative rally begun at the new year.

A stronger dollar would threaten inflation in nations other than the United States by pushing up import bills. The banks, including those of the United States, West Germany, Italy, France, Britain and Switzerland, pushed it down from three-month highs above 1.84 West German marks in a replay of a co-ordinated bout of dollar selling.

Rise Speculative enthusiasm for dollars was also somewhat cooled today by news of a much lower-than-expected rise in US retail sales in December, which suggested the pace of economic expansion might be easing and the risk of inflation abating. The main factor attracting funds to the dollar has been speculation that US interest rates will move higher to counter inflation, which would offer a big

return on interest-bearing dollar assets. The dollar ended in London at 1.83 marks, below the day's high but above the 1.8256 yesterday close. It is more than three per cent higher than at the start of the year.

Fall "Next week is just too dangerous for anyone to do much speculating. The dollar could fall to 1.81 marks as people clear positions," one Frankfurt trader said looking ahead.

Monday is a partial holiday in the United States in memory of Martin Luther King while Japan is closed for Adults Day. Dealers said the main currency market factors next week would be US trade data due on Wednesday and George Bush's inaugural speech as President on Friday.

In Paris, shares opened higher. But in Frankfurt, where carmaker Daimler denied market rumours it had made large foreign exchange losses, share values eased.

Tokyo's Nikkei index rose 154.93 points to a record close at

31,298.38. It is up 1,088.84 points or 3.60 per cent this week since Japanese investors decided that Emperor Hirohito's death marked the start of a buoyant new imperial era.

Positive "Sentiment is positive and markets around the world look good," said a Tokyo trader. The mourning period for the emperor is over and brokers have been dealing heavily on their own books.

Australian investors sent Sydney stocks to an eight-week high, partly because they felt reassured by gains in New York, London and Tokyo. The Australian All Ordinaries index closed up 11.3 points to 1,519.1, its highest level since November 16.

But profit-taking in Hong Kong took the Hang Seng index down 35.35 points to 2,843.98. Gold eased as the dollar rose and investors switched from bullion to the dollar. The gold price was set in London today at \$403.50 an ounce.

The price of Brent Blend crude oil from the North Sea, the most widely traded, was hardly chan-

ged around \$16.35 a barrel for February loading. In London, the benchmark 30-year US Treasury bond was trading at 100/632 per cent yielding 8.98 per cent.

In London shares were below their day's highs, succumbing to profit-taking towards the end of the most active session for some time, dealers said.

By 1620 GMT the FTSE 100 share index was up 10.8 points to 1,861.7 and over 730 million leading shares had been traded. This compares with an average total daily turnover of around 450 million shares since the Christmas holiday break. GEC shares were down 3p to 212. The shares had earlier risen to 208 on news GEC and the unrelated US General Electric Co. are to combine some of their European businesses.

High The FTSE 100 had touched a day's high of 1,863.2, helped initially by a further rise on Wall Street yesterday and another climb to record highs in Tokyo shares, dealers said.

GEC PLC said GE Co will pay

around \$325 million to GEC as part of the link-up, which includes contributions by both sides to three joint companies in the fields of consumer products, medical equipment and electrical distribution equipment.

Analysts said GEC shares at first dipped on the news because it appeared to remove GE Co. as a possible participant in the consortium being arranged by Metson, which has said it might bid for GEC. Some 17 million GEC shares had been traded by 1650 GMT.

Analysts added the new links between GEC and GE Co. also made it seem unlikely GE Co. would attempt a solo bid for GEC.

Dealers said GEC shares subsequently rallied back to their morning levels on the perception that the links with GE Co., which include plans to co-operate in power systems, will be of benefit to the British company.

Other UK property shares were buoyant, with MEEPC up 7p to 546. P and O, which has a large property portfolio, closed 15p up at 561.

Jordan hopes to become world's second biggest phosphate exporter

AMMAN, Jan 13, (Reuters): Jordan, sitting on billions of tonnes of rock phosphate, hopes to become the world's second biggest exporter of the fertiliser base.

Phosphates, accounting for over a fifth of Jordan's exports, are vital to the economy, which has few natural resources.

"In five years we will probably be second after Morocco as the United States concentrates more on domestic production," said Wasef Azar, managing director of the Jordan Phosphate Mines Co (JPMC), the kingdom's leading exporter.

Expansion The company is engaged in a major expansion, developing new mines at the southern desert site of Shidiya in a project partly financed by the World Bank and Arab Development Funds.

The Shidiya area alone has 750 million tonnes of proven phosphate reserves and 250 million tonnes of indicated reserves.

"There is plenty more in Jordan but we have not assessed it," Azar told Reuters.

He said world demand for phosphate ore was picking up and he expected prices to firm by eight to 20 per cent, though prices for the main fertiliser derivative, diammonium phosphate (DAP), were stabilising.

Rock phosphate prices emerged last year from a six-year trough when they averaged \$26 to 40 a tonne, depending on the grade, Azar said. Now rock phosphate sells for \$33 to 50 a tonne for loading at Jordan's Red Sea port of Aqaba.

DAP prices have also risen, to \$210 to 225 a tonne from \$126 to 180 a tonne in the 1982-87 period, he said.

The company expects the price turn-around and a modest output rise to raise hard currency earnings to more than \$400 million this year, compared with about \$350 million in 1988.

"We hope for at least a 50 per cent rise in net profits," Azar said. Pre-tax profits last year surged to more than \$22 million from \$940 million from 4.3 million dinars (\$9 million) in 1987.

Extra The increase partly reflects the dinar's loss of nearly one third of its dollar value last year. Azar said the company's dollar-dominated exports were now worth more in dinar terms but the lower dinar would make imports of capital goods dearer and inflation might raise operational costs, especially wages.

Azar forecast rock phosphate exports rising to six million tonnes this year, from 5.8 million in 1988. Domestic fertiliser production last year absorbed 1.1 million tonnes of output.

Shidiya is due to begin full production within three years and should be producing 12 million tonnes a year by 2000.

Azar said the company wanted to use the extra output for phosphoric acid and fertiliser plants planned for the mid-1990s.

"We are studying the possibility of having some of these plants at Shidiya so that we could dump the gypsum by-product back in the mines," he said.

Unusually gypsum mounds have piled up near the company's fertiliser plant at Aqaba, a winter tourist resort.

Azar said brackish water believed to exist underground in the Shidiya area might be used to cool new industries there. Air-cooling technologies also appeared feasible.

The company is discussing joint processing ventures with the Soviet Union, India, Japan and Pakistan, and Azar said these might be working at full capacity before the mid-1990s.

The Aqaba fertiliser plant, operating since 1982, broke even for the first time last year, but production has yet to reach three-quarters of its design capacity, Azar said.

The company bought the loss-making plant in 1986 from the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Co for 60 million dinars (\$175 million at 1986 prices) and plans to replace faulty equipment.

Dispute A dispute with the French contractor Spie Batignolles, which built the factory for about \$400 million, has gone to arbitration. A related port facility cost \$75 million.

The mines company is poised to take over another loss-maker, the state-owned railway which links Aqaba with Shidiya and the other Hassa and Abiad mines which are to be phased out by 2000.

Azar said the government had decided in principle to turn the railway company over to the mines company, its sole user.

OPEC members abide by new quota pact, says Subroto

MUSCAT, Jan 13, (Reuters): OPEC Secretary-General Subroto said yesterday that members of the 13-nation oil group were abiding by their allocations set in a quota pact signed last November.

He told reporters in Muscat after meeting Oman's Oil Minister Said Bin Ahmed Al Shanfari that the market also had confidence in OPEC.

"Right now there are very good indications that OPEC members are strictly abiding by the agreement that we reached in November," Subroto said. He gave no output figures for members since the pact came into operation on Jan 1.

Subroto arrived in Oman early yesterday as part of the efforts of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to

boost co-operation with producers outside the group.

Oman, which is not part of OPEC, has in the past co-operated with OPEC in its efforts to shore up oil prices. Oman currently produces 600,000 barrels of oil per day.

Output OPEC agreed last November to cut output by 20 per cent to a figure of 18.5 million barrels per day in the first half of 1989 from Jan 1. The pact was aimed at boosting spot market prices which were more than \$7 below OPEC's \$18 per barrel target in 1988.

"Of industry sources in the Gulf said on Monday that output from main producers in the region was lower in the first week of January than December levels.

"The market seeks to have confidence that OPEC is doing exactly what has been agreed upon and this is reflected in the behaviour of prices," Subroto said.

He said Oman's oil currently had a market price of around \$14.50 per barrel, \$3 higher than October-November levels.

OPEC also decided in November to seek co-operation of independent oil producers in achieving market stability.

"We come to the conclusion (with Shanfari) that both OPEC and producers outside OPEC have the same interest, that is stability in the price of oil," Subroto said.

Technical experts from OPEC and some independent producers will meet in London on Jan 26 to prepare the ground

for a gathering of the ministers, the secretary-general said.

Oil producers from Egypt, Oman, Angola, North Yemen, Colombia, Mexico, Malaysia and China would attend the meeting, he said.

Talks Talks were under way with the Soviet Union and "hopefully Russia will also participate" in the London talks, Subroto said.

"The purpose of the meeting is first of all to compare notes to see what 1989 will bring us... and (discuss) what type of co-operation we can achieve together."

Before coming to Oman, Subroto visited non-OPEC producer Egypt which also takes part in efforts to stabilise market prices with OPEC.

Meanwhile a United Arab

Emirates (UAE) official said in remarks published today that he expected the domestic economy to improve following an OPEC pact to boost oil prices by curbing output.

Economy and Trade Ministry undersecretary Abdul Raouf Al Mubarak was quoted by the Khaleej Times newspaper as saying, "a mood of optimism is pervading the government and the private sector on the prospects of the economy."

"A better horizon is visible because oil prices have touched \$16 a barrel and further appreciation is on the cards," he said.

Stability "The oil market now has greater stability than the few swings of the past few years," he added.

Vietnam makes big oil discovery

HANOI, Jan 13, (Reuters): Vietnam, where oil production is brightening an otherwise grim economic picture, has made a big new petroleum discovery off its south coast, the managing director of the state oil company Petrovietnam said yesterday.

Dao Duy Chu said in an interview the new reserves were found late last year about 300 miles offshore north of the Con Son Islands at a depth of about 110 metres (350 feet).

He also said that Petrovietnam would finalise an agreement with London-based British Petroleum next week for a 25-year exploitation and production-sharing agreement, the fourth with a foreign company in eight months.

Policy "The oil industry in Vietnam is entering a new stage. We have many contracts with many companies. Our policy is to encourage investment here for crude oil exploitation. We think our contract terms are quite flexible and promising," Chu said.

He said the reserves at the newly-discovered "Big Bear" field appeared to be even larger than those at the "White Tiger" field off the coast near Vung Tau, northeast of Ho Chi Minh City,

the only Vietnamese field as yet under production.

He could give no estimate of the new reserves, however.

The White Tiger field, where five platforms are already operating under a joint venture with the Soviet Union dating from 1981, produced its target of 15,000 barrels per day (BPD) in 1988, he said.

The target for 1989 was 30,000 BPD and 100,000 BPD in 1990.

Reserves "By 1993 we hope we will have reached more than 120,000 BPD," he said, adding that production would be kept at that level. The field's reserves would last at least 50 years, he said.

The crude is exported to Japan, Western Europe and to Singapore for refining.

Vietnam started production at a small pilot refinery project in Ho Chi Minh City late last year, but more ambitious plans for a commercial refinery at Thanh Tuy Ha, between Ho Chi Minh City and Vung Tau, are being delayed because of lack of finance.

Chu said there had been several proposals from foreign companies to help build the plant, in which phase one would

have a capacity of 60,000 barrels per day.

The project would cost about \$250 million for the plant and machinery alone, he said. It is not expected to get under way until the mid-1990s, he added.

Imports Vietnam imports more than two million tonnes of oil products annually from the Soviet Union and 400,000 tonnes from other sources, Vietnamese officials have said.

Chu said the contract with British Petroleum, which he hoped would be signed in the first quarter of this year, was for a 25-year period. It covered exploitation and production at three blocks off the coast near Da Nang in the central region.

Last year Petrovietnam signed similar production sharing deals with Hydrocarbons India, a Shell-Petrobras consortium and Total of France.

Chu said some representatives of US firms had visited Vietnam, despite a trade embargo imposed by Washington.

"If the US firms would come it would be good news for us," he said. "But we have already signed contracts with other very big companies."

Soviet team in Iran to inspect gas facilities

NICOSIA, Jan 13, (AP): A Soviet team of experts headed by Sergei S. Kashirov, Deputy Minister of Gas Industry, arrived in Tehran yesterday to inspect Iranian technical facilities for gas exports to the Soviet Union, Iranian television reported.

The report, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Kashirov as saying that the team will inspect a gas trunkline to the Soviet Union as well as related installations.

Iran signed a protocol in November to resume gas exports to the USSR — halted in 1980 over a price dispute — but last month Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh said that gas exports to the Soviet Union cannot be resumed until 1991.

He said that the country's

domestic needs will be met first, before Iran can export the 2-3 billion cubic metres of gas per year agreed upon in the protocol.

Aqazadeh said that "we have not yet completed issues with the Soviets which may lead to results. The price of gas has not been negotiated. We have only talked about the technical points of gas exports."

Iran has stressed the importance of rebuilding oil and gas related industries following the Aug 20 ceasefire in the eight-year war with Iraq, in a bid to finance reconstruction of large parts of the urban and industrial sectors destroyed in the war.

The Kangan gas treatment plants, crippled by Iraqi attacks and 85 per cent rebuilt, is

scheduled to resume partial operation by the end of this year.

"The work to begin the first phase of the Kangan plant on stream will begin in early 1989," Aqazadeh said.

The plant, fed by the nearby Kangan and Nar gas fields, will provide Soviet exports, but will not resume its full capacity of 35 million cubic metres a day until 1991.

Surplus "We will need one year to overcome the problems of bringing the Kangan plant on stream, and boosting output to 35 million cubic metres per day," Aqazadeh said.

He said that "if there is anything available to export to the USSR, then it will have to be

after one year and it will have to be from gas which is surplus to domestic needs."

The Igat-2 trunkline, originally built for gas supplies to the Soviet Union, was left unfinished at the time of the 1979 revolution, and extends only up to central Isfahan province.

It is estimated that it will take a few years to complete it.

The Igat-1 trunkline, which carried supplies to the Soviet Union from Iran's southern gas fields, was diverted for domestic use after the price dispute in 1980.

Igat-1 will be used for initial gas supplies to the Soviet Union, but substantial supplies will not begin until Igat-2 has been completed.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Jan 13, (Reuters): Shares consolidated recent gains to end at an eight-week high. The All Ordinaries index rose 11.3 points to 1,519.1, its highest since November 16.

TOKYO: Shares ended with the Nikkei index at a record close after a week of strong gains on bullish sentiment linked to the start of the new imperial era in Japan. The Nikkei index rose 154.93 points, or 0.50 per cent, to 31,298.38.

HONG KONG: Share prices closed at the day's low on profit-taking after four consecutive post-crash highs. The Hang Seng index ended the day 35.35 points lower at 2,843.93.

SINGAPORE: Share prices closed lower with falls in excess of gains by 116 to 70 but the Straits Times industrial index managed a 3.88 point rise to 1,099.19 helped by gains in some index stocks.

BOMBAY: Shares fell for the third day in a row on reports the Finance Ministry is working out a strategy to mobilise taxes. Tata Steel fell 7.5 rupees to 1,138.75.

FRANKFURT: A crop of rumours swept through the market, combining with profit-taking on call-options to unsettle investors and push some shares lower. The Real-Time DAX index closed at 1,353.25, or 5.49 points below the previous close.

ZURICH: Swiss shares closed slightly firmer on moderate turnover, with activity centred on selected registered shares. The broad-based Swiss performance index rose 4.2 points to 975.1.

LONDON: Shares were well below the day's highs, succumbing to profit-taking towards the end of the most active session for some time. By 1620 GMT, the FTSE 100 share index was up 10.9 points to 1,861.7.

NEW YORK: Blue chips recovered some of their losses in morning trading as some earlier selling pressure eased. The Dow was about unchanged at 2222.

World's biggest luxury group names new chief

PARIS, Jan 13, (Reuters): The world's largest luxury goods conglomerate Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton (LVMH) today named dynamic French financier Bernard Arnault as its chairman after a bitter boardroom feud.

Last year Arnault said he planned to be running LVMH within a decade. It took the 39-year-old tycoon who as a teenager wanted to be a concert pianist just four months.

Arnault, who heads financial holding company Financière Agache and whose father Jean was appointed head of the supervisory council last September, exploited feuding between rival family shareholders to take over an empire boasting a long list of luxury brands.

Collection He was unanimously elected at a meeting of the supervisory council today after the resignation yesterday of Alain Chevalier, who had run the group since the merger of Moët Hennessy and Louis Vuitton in June, 1987.

Arnault already owns the Christian Dior and Christian

Lacroix haute couture fashion houses. Now his collection of famous names includes the Moët et Chandon, Dom Perignon and Veuve Clicquot Champagnes, Hennessy and Hine Cognacs, Christian Dior and Givenchy Perfumes and Vuitton Leather Bags.

Today's appointment capped a remarkable return to the centre of France's financial stage.

Arnault left France in 1981 when the Socialists came to power, seeing no future for a young entrepreneur. He went with his family to Florida where he developed housing projects.

But he returned home after identifying opportunities within the economic policies of President Francois Mitterrand.

Heir to a small family building firm in northern France, he entered the limelight four years ago when he ended off rival bids by French textile companies to take over his company.

He went on to increase its holding with the acquisition of the Conforama and Bon Marche department stores, before snapping up the Dior perfume unit.

Poland to stop coal exports by year 2000, says minister

WARSAW, Jan 13, (Reuters): Poland, one of the world's leading coal producers and exporters, plans to phase out coal exports by the year 2000, Industry Minister Mieczyslaw Wilczek said today.

He told reporters Poland could not afford the cost of increased extraction that would be needed to keep exporting coal while satisfying rising domestic demand for the country's main energy resource.

"In our plans for the year 2000 we are practically withdrawing from coal exports. Therefore Poland, one of the leading exporters of coal, is assuming a plan to

abandon coal exports," Wilczek said at a news conference.

Poland was the world's fourth biggest producer and exporter of coal in 1987, producing 193 million tonnes and exporting 31 million tonnes.

The exports, the country's single biggest foreign currency earner, were worth about \$1 billion or 10 per cent of Poland's foreign currency earnings.

"We have to abandon coal exports because we don't want to increase coal extraction," Wilczek said. "The costs of coal extraction would be so great that we would not rationally conclude that it should not happen."

Non-OPEC producers urged to curb production

DOHA, Jan 13, (OPECNA): Senior executives of the national oil companies of the six Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) states have urged non-OPEC oil producers to maintain reasonable oil and gas production levels to help keep a balance between supply and demand.

Participants attending a two-day gathering, which ended here on Wednesday, also called for the maintenance of closer co-ordination with other OPEC member countries, according to Ibrahim Mutawa marketing and transport manager of the Qatar General Petroleum Corporation (QGPC).

Objective He said the prime objective of the meeting was to exchange information on such oil and gas-related issues as production, pricing, exports and market trends in order to achieve greater co-operation among GCC states.

He added that the meeting had passed a resolution to keep unchanged the government selling price for propane at \$95 per tonne and butane at \$90 per tonne.

Citing the recent rally in oil prices, the Qatari official said it was his personal opinion that an \$18 oil price target would be achieved this year if the present situation of tight supply was maintained.

He said in 1988, QGPC produced 600,000 tonnes of propane and butane and 168,000 tonnes of condensates.

Possibility He stated that QGPC was now studying the possibility of converting gas into other derivatives, such as propylene, polypropylene and methanol during the second phase of the north gasfield development project.

GOVERNMENT TENDERS

THE tenders summarised below are invited by the Central Tenders Committee on behalf of government ministries and other concerned authority. The relevant documents may be obtained from the Office of the Central Tenders Committee during office hours against payment of non-refundable fees shown therein. Unless otherwise stated all offers shall remain valid for a period of 90 days.

Tender No. PT/73-88/80
Tender's Internal No.: —
Concerned party: Ministry of Education
Requirements: Supply of education toys for kindergarten
Relevant fee: KD. 20/-
Initial guarantee: 2% of offer's value
Closing date: 12 noon, Tuesday, 14.2.1989

Tender No. MEW/22/470-88/80
Tender's Internal No.: —
Concerned party: Ministry of Elec. & Water
Requirements: Maintenance of works for 10 buildings of main transformer stations
Relevant fee: KD. 20/-
Initial guarantee: 2-1/2% of offer's value
Closing date: 12 noon, Tuesday, 14.2.1989

N.B.: This tender is open for contractors classified in 2nd, 3rd, & 4th categories of constructional works.
Tender No. ST/78-88/80
Tender's Internal No.: —
Concerned party: Ministry of Public Health
Requirements: Construction of a building for X-ray section & Pharmaceutical Warehouse at South Khaitan Centre
Relevant fee: KD. 50/-
Initial guarantee: 50% of offer's value
Closing date: 12 noon, Sunday, 12.2.1989

N.B.: This tender is open for contractors classified in 4th category of constructional works.
Tender No. AA/MM/8-88/80
Tender's Internal No.: —
Concerned party: Public Authority for Agriculture
Requirements: Supply, installation, construction, completion & maintenance of a net enclosure and iron gate round Sheddadiya Afforestation Project
Relevant fee: KD. 50/-
Initial guarantee: 5% of offer's value
Closing date: 12 noon, Sunday, 12.2.1989

Tender No. PA/58-A.M./24-88/80
Tender's Internal No.: —
Concerned party: Public Authority for Applied Education
Requirements: Supply of medical apparatus
Relevant fee: KD. 30/-
Initial guarantee: 5% of offer's value
Closing date: 12 noon, Tuesday, 21.2.1989

Tender No. 2815
Tender's Internal No.: —
Concerned Party: Kuwait Oil Company
Requirements: Supply of a multi functional equipment for testing materials stress
Relevant fee: KD. 20/-
Initial guarantee: 20% of offer's value
Closing date: 12 noon, Sunday, 19.2.1989

Sliding No. PTT/73-88/80
Tender's Internal No.: —
Concerned Party: Ministry of Communications
Requirements: Supply and installation of connection to link Farwaniya and Saluniya Telephone Exchanges
Relevant fee: KD. 50/-
Initial guarantee: 5% of offer's value
Closing date: 12 noon, Saturday, 11.2.1989

Qualified Tenderers:
1. TCIL Co. India
2. Budafax, Hungary
3. Telefax Co. Bulgaria
4. Cable Metal Co. Germany
N.B. Agents are requested to present proof of agency of the companies they represent.

Meryl Streep plays controversial Australian

An actress with a cause

By Deborah Cameron

NO other actress looks so cool and promises such passion. Men and women have swooned at her performances in the French Lieutenant's Woman, Kramer versus Kramer, Out of Africa and Silkwood.

She has two Oscars and seven nominations under her belt and looks all set for another. Her passion is not reserved only for sexual encounters. She can become equally inflamed by a cause.

And the latest cause to ignite the smouldering Miss Meryl Streep is the case of Australian Lindy Chamberlain who was sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of her baby daughter at Ayers Rock in 1980.

Impressed

Streep has been deeply impressed by many of the women she's played, but taking on the role of Lindy Chamberlain was the greatest challenge.

They are both about the same age and Lindy's youngest daughter is as old as Streep's daughter, Marnie.

When the two met they hit it off... but Streep knows this formidable woman, who survived being wrongly imprisoned, is not afraid to judge her as an actress.

Lindy claimed that, after hearing a cry, she went to the tent where baby Azaria had been sleeping and saw, to her horror, a dingo leaving the tent with the blood-covered baby in its mouth.

But partly because of the family's coyness the next day Lindy's story was not believed.

It wasn't until September last year that Lindy and her husband, Michael, were finally cleared of all involvement in their baby's death.

A Cry In The Dark, the film of the case, in which Meryl Streep stars with heartthrob actor Sam Neill as her husband, is Meryl Streep's latest film.

"While we were filming she

was a convicted murderer," Streep said.

"She couldn't get a passport, or leave the country. She'd been pardoned but it was like saying, 'You've done your time but we still know you did it. I don't know how you can erase eight years of suspicion.'

"I was very tentative with her," Streep says of her first meeting with Chamberlain. "I was feeling like I was walking on eggs."

But she says that meeting in Melbourne weeks before the first footage was shot was a "watershed."

"I knew more about that woman and the details of her everyday life and every aspect of her. I had seen every single piece of tape that had ever been made on her everything said in print and that was supposed to have been said in print; everything that she said on the TV and how it was interpreted."

"And then she walked in the door and I met the person herself and looked into her eyes and what I got from that meeting was the inspiration, the fuel to do the part."

"It was much more than emotional. I don't know the details — it was galvanising. I had all the technical stuff going into that meeting."

"I wasn't prepared for the size of that little woman. She fills up the room. Her spirit and her fortitude and the fact that she was not going to be destroyed. You just know it."

Sometimes Streep has to search for an element in a character or even use a psychological trigger to help her into a part. But the spirit of Lindy Chamberlain needs no unlocking.

"The image that I saw on the TV was indelible," Streep says. "If she had been a heroine that everybody thought was properly vulnerable and soft and beautiful and forthcoming with the tears, it would have been different."

"She wasn't. She's who she is. She's formidable and she didn't give the right response. I

thought that was really interesting. People were not so interested in the truth as in the bearer of the truth."

Streep was a close to Lindy Chamberlain as she could be and sometimes it seemed she got closer. "You know, suddenly my life flashed before my eyes — I mean, I mean — Lindy's life."

Much has been made of her ability to get into character and accents. Her Lindy Chamberlain is perfect.

"If I'd done this movie with an American accent it would have been noticeable."

"I tried to speak like Lindy Chamberlain — in fact I tried to copy her which is something I don't usually do," she says.

Tramp

Streep didn't need to tramp around the base of Ayers Rock in a polyester frock, Reeboks and a wig for a month to prove that she was a great actress. She did it because she believed the Chamberlain's story from the moment she read the script.

She says that the Chamberlain conviction should be a warning. "I felt like an interloper, no question," she says.

"But I may be able to bring attention to the story that maybe it wouldn't otherwise have had. I don't think it was just an Australian story. It was a cautionary tale for everyone."

The film, which names a large cast of "gossips" in its credits, according to Streep, a powerful document against the death penalty.

Challenge

"You know there would be motherless children if that sort of thinking was going on. It's all I can think about. I am wild on this subject. Doesn't it chill you to the bone that Australia was crying for blood?"

Streep loved the role. But other than working to promote A Cry In The Dark, for her it is over.

Now her next challenge is the



Meryl Streep as Lindy Chamberlain (inset) in her new film A Cry in the Dark.

coveted role of Evita, a role any actress would die for. Streep sees a link between the two women.

"It's two sides of the same story," she says.

"No matter what Lindy Chamberlain did on television and in newspapers, people hated her."

"No matter what Evita did, or what they found out about her and the excesses of her administration, people loved her. She was canonised. A little like the way people feel about Miss Streep."

She's nervous about the singing required by the role. "I'm really scared of it. You know, I'm really scared. It's so hard to get up and sing in front of people. For me it is anyway."

"Some great voices have sung that score but they have



been very different voices which I think is good.

"Now I've heard the range and I'm trying to forget about all the ones that have sung it and just find my own voice in it."

She has already found her voice in so many people. She will certainly find it again.

NEW DELHI, India, (AP) — The twelfth International Film Festival of India opened in the capital last week amid protests by participating stars of what they say was the political murder of a director and playwright.

Shabana Azmi, a leading Indian actress, said during opening ceremonies that Sagar Hashmi, a member of the Marxist Communist Party, was "murdered in broad daylight" last week by the followers of a member of the ruling Congress Party.

Hashmi, a director and writer of street plays, was attacked Jan 1 in the town of Sahibabad, on the eastern outskirts of New Delhi, and died two days later. He was staging a play critical of the government when he was attacked.

Information and broadcasting Minister H.K.L. Bhagat, who opened the festival, denied the allegation of political murder and said strict action would be taken against those found guilty in Hashmi's death.

At least 200 films from over 45 countries will be screened at eight theatres in the city over the next two weeks.

Ms Azmi co-stars with Shirley Maclaine, Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Twiggy and 17-year-old star Navin Chaudhary in John Schlesinger's film, Madame Sousatzka, which was shown after the opening ceremony. Navin has already won accolades for his performance in the film, playing a precocious child caught in a conflict between a possessive mother and a tyrannical piano teacher, each trying to wean him away from the other.

The film climaxes with a piano concert in which he breaks free from his teacher. Madame Sousatzka was completed in December 1987 and screened at the Venice Film Festival last year, but Navin says he still finds it unbelievable that he acted with such film giants as Schlesinger, Shirley and Shabana.

"They all went out of their way to help me overcome my nervousness and so the shooting was one big picnic," he says.

Star of Madame Sousatzka accuses Congress I supporters of murder

Indian film festival opens in controversy

He recalls a particular incident when he was down with a cold during an outdoor shooting. "When Shirley heard of this she came to my caravan, carried me to hers and showed me a method of curing the cold."

"I can't tell you the method though," he adds laughingly. Though fond of acting and a member of an amateur theatre group in Bristol, Navin says that luck has much to do with his being cast in the film.

His father, a leather exporter, was looking after his uncle Raj Chaudhary's magazine Kohinoor in London when he got a letter from the film's casting directors who were looking for an Asian boy for the role.

"My father called me up immediately because he thought I fitted the description."

What followed was an interview with Schlesinger "who seemed totally disinterested in me though I knew he wasn't," some quick lessons on the piano and the screen tests.

Three weeks later he got a telephone call from Schlesinger saying he had got the role. "I was almost sick with excitement when I heard that," Navin recalls.

Navin's most difficult scenes in the film were those where he plays the piano and he says they were preceded by three months of vigorous training on the instrument. Encouraged by the response to the film, Navin says he wants to establish himself in British and American film circles, and has already engaged an agent to get him good films.

Madama Sousatzka has already been released in the United States and is slated for

a royal premier in Britain in March this year.

Despite all the excitement about the film, Navin says he hasn't forgotten his school and studies.

Studying 'A' levels in chemistry and French, Navin says he plans to take up law and become a barrister. "Acting is my first passion, but I want to get a law degree so that I have something to fall back on if I flop as an actor."

His first lucky break notwithstanding, the young debutant says it hasn't been a cakewalk for him all the way. "My friends in Bristol acted as extras in films so that they could have some points on their union cards and get better roles," he says. "But I couldn't even do that because of my colour."

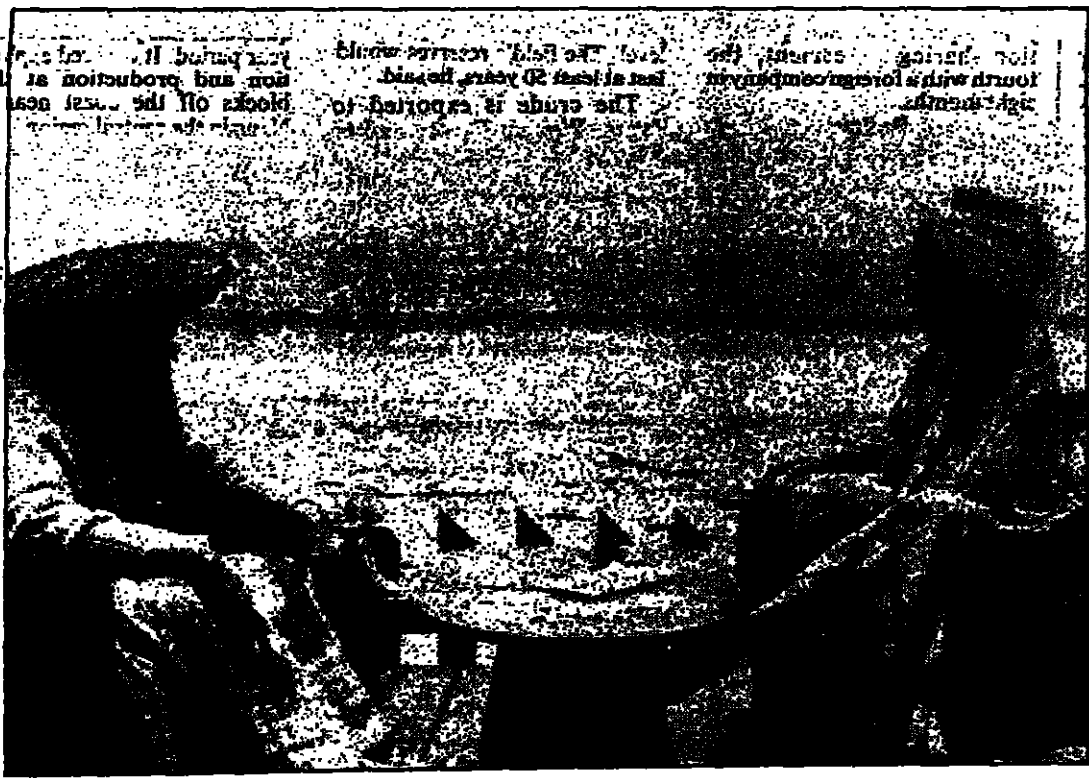
"It can be quite humiliating, particularly at my age," Navin said.

Perhaps that is what has made him take all the accolades and acclaim that came his way after Madame Sousatzka with equanimity and decide to be selective in signing films.

He says he has several offers from British television channels but hasn't accepted any. "I don't want to be like a guy you see in 20 movies a week and yet do not remember his name."

Though a Hindi movie buff, the young actor says even the promise of a lavish lifestyle and easy money would not lure him to these films, which are commercial, have predictable storylines and incoherent plots. "Besides, after doing a Schlesinger film, I can't see myself singing in the rain and running around trees."

"But if I get a good 'arty' film with a sensible story and a good director, maybe, who knows," he adds.



Bette Midler (right) with Barbara Hershey in Beaches, her new film in which she combines comedy and drama.

Tailor-made role for Midler

By Jilly Weber

SUPERSTAR Bette Midler just could not resist making her new movie, Beaches. For she felt that it was more than acting... it was telling her own story.

One of the leading characters in the tale of a lifelong friendship between two women is a girl who started life as a cabaret singer and fought her way to stardom. Just like Bette, nicknamed "The Divine Miss M". And also like the raucous, raunchy star, the girl in the movie is both saucy and irrepressible.

Bette fell so in love with the idea of the film that she became co-producer, too. She says: "When I was a teenager I discovered that singing was something I could do well, something I could sink my teeth into."

"And I started to become a driven person, like the character I portray in Beaches, the singer CC Bloom."

The new movie, where Bette plays opposite Barbara Hershey, gives her a chance for the first time to combine comedy and singing in a serious dramatic role.

Friendship

She portrays one of two women who first meet at the age of 11 on a holiday beach and continue their friendship into adulthood despite their very different lives — her young friend Hillary Whitney (actress Barbara Hershey) grows up to become a respected San Francisco lawyer.

Co-star Barbara was also fascinated by the demanding role

The raunchy singer just couldn't resist playing a saucy, irrepressible cabaret singer who climbed her way to stardom. After all the script of her latest movie Beaches seemed so familiar already...

she herself was called on to play. She says: "It's really a kind of love story between two women, a friendship that evolves and goes through so many aspects of friendship that I have experienced in my own life."

"Hillary really loves and supports CC and recognises her enormous talent. She is not talented in the same way and is in awe of what CC does."

And Bette Midler adds: "The characters are like two sides of the same coin. They both lack traits which they see and admire in each other. Together they are whole."

"Hillary thinks of CC as very exciting and CC admires Hillary's elegance — she belongs to a class of society that CC can only dream of aspiring to."

Despite those very different paths their lives take, they remain firm friends and a source of strength to each other throughout the highs and lows of their careers, marriages and

ultimately through a crisis that really tests their friendship — when they both fall in love with the same man.

Bette Midler was first shown pre-publication proofs of the book Beaches by the writer, Iris Rainer Dart. She was immediately drawn to the unique, dignified and humorous way in which the novelist had dealt with the story of a deep friendship between two women, and felt that the book sensitively handled a subject ignored by run-of-the-mill Hollywood movies.

Unusual

Bette Midler adds: "I felt it was an unusual story. The two women have been friends for so long. After meeting as children they truly unburden themselves through letters they write to each other over the years."

"They reveal themselves so fully that when they do meet again eventually their bond is so strong and firm."

Bette Midler — the outrageous "The Divine Miss M" as she became known in the early Seventies — has previously gained an Academy Award nomination, two Golden Globe awards, Broadway's prestigious Tony Award, an Emmy Award, three Grammy Awards — and the respect and admiration of the whole entertainment industry.

With this new departure for her, combining comedy with serious drama, it could be time for the entertainment industry award presenters to dust off a few more glittering trophies for that Divine Miss M.

Exiled Asian filmmaker achieves international renown

By David Spark

A FEW weeks after Jamil Dehlavi finished shooting his prize-winning film about resistance to a military government, The Blood of Hussain, the Army seized power in Pakistan.

After arguing vainly for two years that the film's topicality was purely coincidental, he left for Britain where he is now working on a television series from Rudyard Kipling's Jungle Book.

The story, about the boy Mowgli and his friends, the animals of India, already has inspired a highly successful cartoon film and a 1940s Hollywood feature which Dehlavi thought was "awful."

The Jungle Book series is being financed by Britain's independent Channel 4 service and will be shown also on Italian and Spanish TV.

In Third World Impact, a recently-published book about immigrant communities in Britain, Dehlavi is described as the only British-based filmmaker from Asia to achieve international renown.

Dehlavi lives in one of London's most unusual and attractive homes. Hidden behind a row of former almshouses, and out of earshot of the traffic, it is a 19th century chapel which was derelict when he bought it from a bankrupt architect.

Over a period of five years, it

has been beautifully restored to Dehlavi's design by a Polish craftsman.

It is in the Gothic style, imitated from the Middle Ages, which was popular a century ago. The interior brickwork is now painted black, brown and white, and an upper floor, which is Dehlavi's sitting room, has a black and brown balustrade to match.

The arch in front of which the altar once stood is picked out in brown and white, with the dining table beneath it. Outside is a well-kept lawn which Dehlavi plans one day to surround with a cloister.

Dehlavi, son of a Pakistani diplomat and his French wife, was born in Calcutta in 1944. He was sent to school in England, at Rugby, which he did not enjoy very much.

"I was interested in artistic subjects, and Rugby wasn't exactly the place," he said in an interview.

After studying at Oxford University, he became a lawyer but "it was more parental pressure that made me do it."

At this point Dehlavi made what he calls his transition into the world of art — learning to play classical and flamenco guitar.

He joined a French television network as an assistant director and then went to the United States to study film-making at

Columbia University, New York.

To help pay his way, he played guitar in restaurants and at dances.

The United States was something of a culture shock. "It's a tremendous step from Pakistan to Europe," Dehlavi said. "Europe to New York is one step further."

"It's a very aggressive city. When you want something, it gives you that bit of aggression you certainly need in the film business."

Dehlavi's first ("not very interesting") camera job was for the United Nations in New York, filming the General Assembly and the diplomats arriving and departing.

Then he returned to Pakistan to make his first feature film, Towers of Silence, by, he said, "begging, borrowing and stealing."

"I managed to borrow cameras from Pakistan Television, and I got them to process the film. A national film development corporation had just been formed and I asked if they were willing to help. They contributed, and entered the film in festivals."

Then came The Blood of Hussain, which was inspired by the historical death of Hazrat Hussain.

"I transposed it to a modern context, a military government

coming to power and a man's non-acceptance of this government," Dehlavi said.

"A month after the shooting of the film, the military took over in Pakistan, so they weren't very happy about it."

"It was intended to be more of an allegory but, because of the situation after the film was shot, everybody read more into it."

"I stayed in Pakistan for two years. My passport was impounded. The negative of the film was in England."

"I found I was bashing my head against a bureaucratic wall, and I decided to leave because I was wasting my life."

The Blood of Hussain won the Grand Prize at the Taormina Festival in Italy and was judged Best Feature Film at a festival in Houston, Texas.

Derek Malcolm of The Guardian newspaper called it a powerful and imaginative plea for freedom. Alan Brien wrote in the Sunday Times, "It is the world of Haroun El Rashid superimposed on the world of Henry Kissinger."

Channel 4 television had just been launched when Dehlavi arrived in Britain and he sent producer David Rose a few ideas. One was for Born of Fire, a fantasy about the mysterious music of a flute-player.

"The supernatural interested me," Dehlavi said. "As a child,

I was told stories of djinns."

"Most films, about the supernatural, look at it from a Christian viewpoint. I've never seen anything from a Muslim viewpoint. So I thought I would play with that idea."

"I never expected Rose to choose it. I expected Channel 4 to be more conventional, more like the BBC. But he did commission it, much to my surprise."

For Born of Fire, Dehlavi needed film of an erupting volcano but could find nothing suitable in the film archives. During a visit to Mauritius, he flew in a helicopter over the crater of a volcano on the neighbouring island of Reunion.

"I met a Frenchman who knew the volcano. I said, 'If it erupts, ring me or send me a telex.' One day he did, and I was on the next plane out."

He and his French friend filmed the volcano. The result was not only footage for Born of Fire but a separate documentary film, Qaf, which won another prize for Dehlavi.

Born of Fire, shot mainly in Turkey, won a gold award in Houston last year.

Meanwhile, in the unavoidable pauses as he negotiates financing for more films, Dehlavi is returning to a childhood interest, painting.

Courtesy Dawn

Maggie Smith: in her prime

By David Lewin

HER passport says simply that she is Margaret Natalie Smith "professionally known as Maggie."

Indeed she is. Maggie Smith has won two Hollywood Oscars and five best actress awards. Now after a standing room only season in the West End in Lettice and Lovage (which she is taking to an already expectant Broadway) she stars with Bob Hoskins in a remarkable new film directed by Jack Clayton and called The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne.

She is 53 with red hair and described herself once as being "all eyes and teeth." Her eyes are keen and alert. She is married to the writer Beverly Cross and has two sons from a previous marriage to the actor Robert Stephens.

Judith Hearne is a prime part which four other actresses desperately wanted to play — Katharine Hepburn, Deborah Kerr, Anne Bancroft and Shirley Maclaine.

It is a love story of a spinster

which ends with sadness but strength. Bob Hoskins is the unlikely object of her desires, an Americanised Irishman who may rescue her from loneliness and provide her with the illusion of romantic desire.

"It is about loneliness which everybody understands, however lonely they may be," Maggie Smith said. "It is universal and I think it can only give a lot of hope to people. They see it is possible to come through; to survive."

"When I was offered the part I went straight for it, especially with Jack Clayton directing. I do make up my mind pretty quickly on subjects, but there isn't an embarrassment of choice."

This surprised me. For Maggie Smith, I thought, the offers would be unlimited.

"There aren't that many things around, when you get to a certain age," she said. "That is why I am so lucky Peter Shaffer wrote Lettice and Lovage for me — and as a double act with Margaret Tyacke too." (Geraldine McEwan has taken over from

Miss Smith in the West End).

"It is getting better but you still have the sensation when something comes up that it will be the last one. You never know. It was accepted until quite recently that women were finished on stage when they were 40. I remember a rather gloomy night in Chicago when I was doing Private Lives and it was my 40th birthday. I wasn't too jolly then."

"I don't think it was just Joan Collins who helped change the attitude but she certainly didn't hurt."

Pessimistic

"They do say there are three ages of an actress. You are either too young for the part. Or too old. Or you are won-der-ful (she emphasised every syllable with that unique voice of hers), which implies that at a certain age it is a wonder you can still stand up and negotiate the stage at all."

"I used to be very pessimistic but not so much now. What changed that attitude? I don't know. Acceptance I suppose. You go on."



Maggie Smith: in line for an award in her new film The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne

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New York thrash Charlotte

NEW YORK, Jan 13, (AP): Charles Oakley scored six of his 12 points during a 15-0 spurt that opened the third quarter yesterday as New York beat the Charlotte Hornets 106-89, the Knicks' 12th consecutive home victory.

Mark Jackson scored 18 points for New York and Patrick Ewing had 13 points and 13 rebounds. Oakley had 12 rebounds.

Rex Chapman scored 19 points for Charlotte and Kelly Tripucka had 16 points.

With the score tied at 48 at the half, the Knicks outscored the Hornets 32-13 in the third quarter. Oakley's layup capped the third-quarter streak and gave the Knicks a 63-50 lead with 6:35 left.

In other National Basketball Association games yesterday, Washington defeated Miami 106-100; Boston edged New Jersey 106-103; Houston surged over Portland 116-106; Utah routed San Antonio 115-91; and Seattle whipped Dallas 130-95.

Bulls 106, Heat 100

Bernard King and Jeff Malone scored 32 points each for Washington and Steve Colter scored 11 points in the fourth quarter to rally the Bulls, who have won six of its last eight home games.

Boston 106, New Jersey 103

Dennis Johnson made one free throw and Danny Ainge added two in the final minute as Boston beat New Jersey to its fourth consecutive loss.

Rockets 116, Trail Blazers 106

Akeem Olajuwon scored 32 points, including six straight baskets in the closing minutes, to lead Houston over Portland.

Jazz 115, Spurs 91

John Stockton had 26 points, 16 assists and six steals and Utah scored 17 straight points in the first quarter to defeat San Antonio.

Supersonics 130, Mavericks 95

Dale Ellis scored 36 points, including four 3-pointers, and Seattle won its 12th consecutive home victory and Dallas lost its sixth straight.

Strange takes two-shot lead in 2nd round

GOLD COAST, Australia, Jan 13, (Reuters): US Open champion Curtis Strange defied driving rain to double his overnight lead to two strokes in the second round of the \$516,000 Palm Meadows golf tournament today.

Strange, who won more than a million dollars on the US PGA Tour last year, added a two-under-par 70 to his opening 66.

"It was a long tough day. It was windy, then the rain came, it got chilly, and then it was calm. It wasn't easy," he said. He is two shots ahead of compatriot Jeff Maggert, who shot a second round 71 to stand in turn one in front of five players.

One of them, Australian Terry Price, produced an excellent round in any conditions of 65 today. It contained eight birdies and equalled the tournament record of 65 held by Australia's Roger Mackay and Japan's 'Jet' Ozaki.

An official ruling saved Australia's world number two Greg Norman from disaster on the 18th hole, where his tee shot bounced off a bank before wedging between two small rocks on the edge of the water.

The contentious point was whether his ball had bounced above or below an orange hazard line less than two metres from the water's edge.

Officials viewed a slow motion replay on a nearby television monitor before ruling Norman's ball had just cleared the line.

Norman took a penalty drop and finished with a round of 68. Following a first day 75, he is seven strokes behind the leader.

BORDER & CO. PLAN TO NEUTRALISE VISITORS' ALL-ROUND STRENGTH

Spinners help Australia crush West Indies

SYDNEY, Jan 13, (Reuters): The spin bowling of Peter Taylor and captain Allan Border led Australia to a resounding and morale-boosting win over West Indies in a World Series Cup one-day match yesterday on the eve of the series' finals.

In a day-night match played in front of more than 45,000 spectators at the Sydney Cricket Ground, Australia managed only a moderate 215 for five in 48 overs, but then tied down the West Indies' batsmen to win by 61 runs.

It was an important victory psychologically for the Australians with the best-of-three games finals beginning tomorrow. West Indies have already sewn up the five-match Test series, winning the first three matches.

The Australian victory was never really in doubt once opener Desmond Haynes, the only West Indian to put up any sort of resistance, was dismissed by Ian Healy off the bowling of Border for 58.

Border and Taylor each had three victims as six wickets fell in the space of 27 runs and only Gus Logie with an unbeaten 29 enabled West Indies to reach 154 for eight by the finish.

The Australian skipper captured the wickets of Haynes, Keith Arthurton (22), and Roger Harper (1), while Taylor dismissed

sed Viv Richards (3), Malcolm Marshall (1) and Curtly Ambrose (6).

Taylor, who was named Man of the Match, had figures of three for 22 from his 10 overs while Border took three for 33.

Australia's total was built around an innings of 77 by Dean Jones after Border had won the toss and decided to bat under an overcast sky.

Although Australia lost David Boon cheaply, Jones was given useful assistance by Geoff Marsh with 24 and then, in succession, the Waugh brothers Mark and Steve.

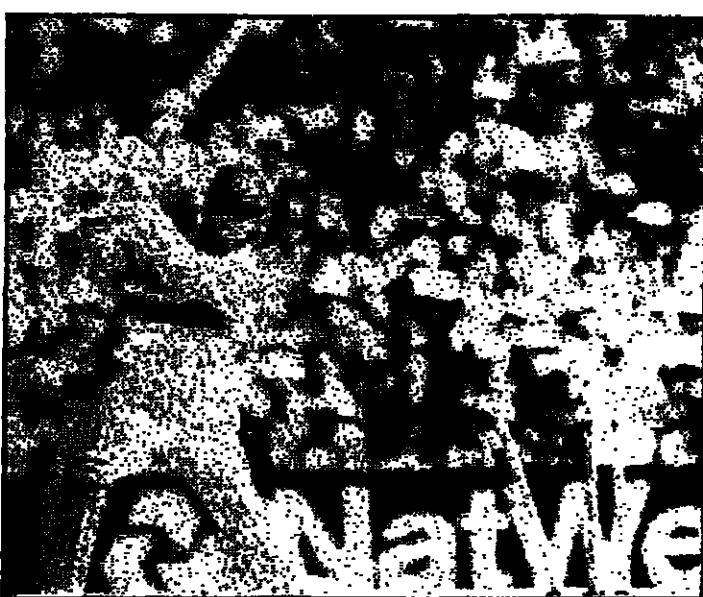
Mark Waugh was second highest scorer with 42 while Steve was unbeaten on 40.

West Indies failed to bowl their overs in the required time and the match was reduced to 48 overs each.

Border believes the key to retaining the crown Australia won against Sri Lanka and New Zealand last year does not lie in the fearsome pace bowling which powered West Indies to a winning 3-0 lead in the Test series.

Rather he plans to neutralise West Indies' all-round strength through the wiles of his own part-time spinning fingers and those of Taylor.

Border is so confident of his success plan that Australia, the World Cup champions, could



Border is clean bowled by West Indian Curtly Ambrose. (Reuters wirephoto)

insert another spinner into their line-up for the first match in Melbourne tomorrow.

"We could really use another spinner and I'll be bringing it up with the selectors," said Border.

"Having the second spinner won't hurt and could give us an edge," he told reporters. "If the series goes down to a third final in Sydney, he'd be more than handy."

Balls have a tendency to turn

square on the flat dusty pitches at the Sydney Cricket Ground, the venue for the second and third matches of the series, which has proven to be a graveyard for West Indies in previous years.

On their last visit in 1984-85, they lost convincingly to the state side and were thrashed by Australia by an innings and 55 runs in the fifth Test. The chief destroyer then was 38-year-old leg-spinner Bob Holland, who took 10 wick-

ets in the match.

Australian selectors now face an unlikely dilemma of whom to omit to make room for a spinner from the side who have won their last four encounters against Pakistan and West Indies.

All-rounder Greg Matthews, off spinner Tim May and South African rebel leg spinner Trevor Hobbs have strong claims.

West Indies, who rested three players in their defeat yesterday, should bring back opener Gordon Greenidge and Carl Hooper to strengthen their batting.

The Caribbean side are experiencing an untimely slump in form. They lost their last three games to Australia and Pakistan.

Terry Alderman, Australia's most accurate bowler, is expected to return to the team at the expense of either Merv Hughes or Craig McDermott. Alderman was rested for yesterday's game.

Squads (possible): Australia — Allan Border (captain), Geoff Marsh, David Boon, Steve Waugh, Mark Waugh, Ian Healy, Simon O'Donnell, Terry Alderman, Peter Taylor, Greg Matthews, Craig McDermott, Graeme Wood (12th man).

West Indies — Viv Richards (captain), Desmond Haynes, Gordon Greenidge, Richie Richardson, Gus Logie, Jeff Dujon, Carl Hooper, Malcolm Marshall, Curtly Ambrose,

Patrick Patterson, Roger Harper, Winston Benjamin (12th man).

Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA

D. Boon c Arthurton b Marshall 26
G. Marsh c Haynes b Marshall 24
D. Jones b Ambrose 77
M. Waugh c Haynes b Marshall 42
S. Waugh not out 40
S. Border b Ambrose 3
S. O'Donnell not out 3
Extras (lb-7 nb-9 w-4) 20

Total (five wickets, 48 overs) 215
Fall: 1-9-2-59-3-137-4-191-5-211.

Bowling: Marshall 10-3-25-2, Patterson 9-0-50-0 (4nb, 3w), Bishop 10-1-34-1 (2nb, 1w), Ambrose 9-0-42-2 (3nb), Harper 9-0-51-0, Richards 1-0-6-0.

Did not bat: L. Healy, P. Taylor, M. Hughes, C. McDermott.

WEST INDIES

D. Haynes c Taylor b Border 58
J. Dujon c Taylor b S. Waugh 17
R. Richardson c Border b McDermott 22
K. Arthurton b Border 22
V. Richards c Marsh b Taylor 29
G. Logie not out 3
R. Harper lbw b Border 1
M. Marshall lbw b Taylor 1
C. Ambrose c Border b Taylor 6
I. Bishop not out 4
Extras (lb-4 nb-1) 5

Total (eight wickets, 48 overs) 154
Fall of wickets: 1-49-2-63-3-107-4-110-5-124-6-125-7-126-8-134.

Did not bat: Patrick Patterson
Bowling: O'Donnell 7-6-22-0, Hughes 7-1-26-0, McDermott 7-0-26-1, S. Waugh 3-0-13-1, Taylor 10-2-23-3, Border 10-1-33-3, Jones 4-0-8-0 (1nb).

Imran rates his team 2nd best in the world

Pakistan aim to blast Kiwis' record

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Jan 13, (Reuters): Pakistan captain Imran Khan today rated his team the second best in the world and said it would end New Zealand's record of 10 years without defeat in a home Test series.

He told reporters when the team arrived from Australia for a two-month tour including three Tests: "It's success abroad that matters these days."

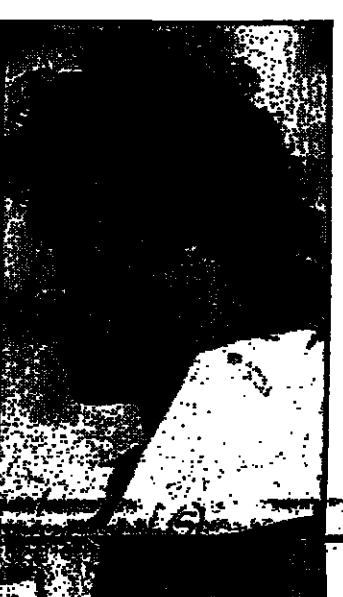
The Pakistani all-rounder is on his first visit to New Zealand since 1978/79 when his country was the last side to win a series here.

Showing

Imran Khan said the West Indies were pre-eminent at present, followed by Pakistan.

He said his side's 1988 showing in the West Indies, where they nearly ended the hosts' 16-year unbeaten record, was why he rated his own side so highly. The sides drew the series one-all.

He said he was disappointed with Pakistan's form in Australia where they failed to reach the



Imran Khan

final of the triangular one-day World Series Cup. But he added that the true measure was Test cricket and not one-day matches. Pakistan base their hopes for

winning the series on a well-balanced attack, he said. "It's the variety in our attack which will be our weapon."

Unlike previous tours, where the bowlers were mainly spinners, he expected Pakistan's pace attack to play a key role.

Imran Khan, who has taken 334 Test wickets, rated Wasim Akram as a force to be reckoned with in international cricket.

"He's the most talented youngster in world cricket and that includes players like Graeme Hick," he said.

In addition, Aaqib Javed, 17, would be an interesting prospect. To back the fast bowlers will be experienced spinner, Abdul Qadir, whom Imran Khan rated as the best spinner in the world.

Batting would not be as strong as with previous Pakistani touring sides and once again would revolve around Javed Miandad. "He's our main batting hope."

The principal obstacle for Pakistan will be Richard Hadlee, the world record wicket-taker and the main reason for New

Zealand's home record.

Imran Khan said he did not expect to challenge Hadlee's record haul of 391 wickets. "I think he's too far ahead."

Most of the other players apart from Kiwi captain John Wright are unknown quantities to the Pakistan captain. He said he was looking forward to bowling against players such as Martin Crowe and Mark Greatbatch.

Clouding Pakistani hopes are a number of niggling injuries to key players, including Imran Khan himself.

Speed

The all-rounder was reduced to bowling medium pace in Australia and he hoped to warm up and speed up with as much cricket as possible before the first Test starting in Dunedin on February 3.

Others nursing injuries include Miandad, Wasim and Aamer Malik.

The tour begins with a three-day non-first class game against a second XI selection team in New Plymouth on Wednesday.

Graf seeded to meet Sabatini in semifinal



Graf bids for successive Grand Slams

MELBOURNE, Jan 13, (Reuters): Steffi Graf is seeded to meet her most dangerous opponent, Gabriela Sabatini, in the semifinal of the Australian Open tennis, the initial stage in the West German's bid to become the first person to win successive Grand Slams.

Defending men's champion Mats Wilander of Sweden, bidding for his fourth title here in six years, faces a possible semifinal against West German Boris Becker. Wilander was named the top seed for this tournament.

In the final, he is expected to meet Czechoslovakia's Ivan Lendl, the man he displaced as world number one in 1988 according to the seedings and draw announced by Tennis Australia today.

Argentina's Sabatini inflicted two of Graf's three defeats last year. But Graf, the world number one and the top seed, avenged defeat by beating the Argentine in the US Open final.

US Davis Cup captain Tom Gorman said Chang, one month short of his 17th birthday, will be the youngest player ever to compete for the Americans when they make their return to world group competition beginning Feb 5.

Agassi, ranked third in the world, and Wimbledon and Olympic doubles champions Flach and Seguso, have never lost in Davis Cup play.

Agassi is 3-0 in Davis Cup singles and Flach and Seguso have teamed for seven straight Davis Cup doubles victories.

The US team will be looking to avenge their controversial 1987 loss to Paraguay that dropped the Americans out of the world group.

Completed
American Pam Shriver beat Graf late in the year when the West German had already completed the first Grand Slam since 1970 by winning all four major titles in the same year.

Sabatini has never played in Australia and her appearance is causing huge interest among tennis fans.

Lendl, the second seed here, is due to meet Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg of Sweden, seeded fourth, in the other men's semifinal.

Australia's Pat Cash, the Open finalist here in the past two years, is the 13th seed while American

Mandlikova outlasts Fernandez

SYDNEY, Jan 13, (Reuters): Second seeded Pam Shriver lost and a fast-becoming-fit Hana Mandlikova won in two quarter-final upsets at the New South Wales Open championships today.

Shriver fell to fellow American Terry Phelps 6-3 6-3 and Mandlikova triumphed over Mary Joe Fernandez, also from the United States, 2-6 7-6 (7-0) 6-3.

The ninth seeded Czechoslovak-born Australian staged a spirited comeback after being down 5-3 in the second set.

Mandlikova, who barely scraped through her first round match against Britain's Jo Durie, meets another Czechoslovak-born player, top seed Martina Navratilova, in the semis. The left-handed American breezed through her quarters against Patty Fendick 6-1 6-1.

Opponent
Her second set 7-0 tie-break against Phelps pushed Mandlikova to take to the net more aggressively. She won 17 winners from the net to her opponent's eight.

Shriver, whose serves and volleys failed to work on the blustery synthetic rebound ace court, was philosophical about her defeat.

"I definitely won't be over-taken for the Australian Open, which was the case last year."

The New South Wales tournament is largely seen as a preparation for the Open in Melbourne, also a rebound ace event.

Meanwhile, unseeded Yugoslav Bruno Oresar beat seventh seeded Australian Wally Masur 7-5 6-4 and Frenchman Olivier Delatree defeated sixth seeded Christo van Rensburg of South Africa 7-5 6-3 in two men's quarterfinal upsets.

I fear myself most, Becker tells children

MELBOURNE, Jan 13, (Reuters): Former Wimbledon champion Boris Becker told children today the player he generally fears most on the world circuit is himself.

Becker, seeded third in the Australian Open starting on Monday, said his problem is his temper.

But the West German said on-court anger could sometimes help his game. "It depends how far I go. If it gets to the point where I have to smash a couple of rackets then it doesn't help my game, but if I scream out once or twice then it's all right," he said.

"Most of the time myself," Becker answered when the children asked who his toughest opponent is. "It depends a lot on me. If I play good I am not so easy to beat. If I play not so good it depends more on me."

The West German beat Frenchman Yannick Noah in straight sets in a demonstration match before 40 children were let loose on him to stage their own news conference.

Becker was asked whether he was friends with the ice man of tennis, former world number one Ivan Lendl.

"We have started to know each other not too bad. I haven't had dinner with him, but maybe one day."

Reid's future hangs on operation

SYDNEY, Jan 13, (Reuters): Bruce Reid, one of Australia's top Test bowlers, was in hospital yesterday after a major back operation which could decide his cricketing future.

The 25-year-old left arm paceman hopes the surgery will end the recurring back problem that has plagued him since his breakdown during last year's tour of Pakistan.

"If this doesn't work, then there's not much else that can be done for him," said Daryl Foster, coach of Reid's Western Australian state team. "It's a very important stage in his career."

Foster said doctors were hopeful Reid, who had been hampered by a spinal disc protrusion which caused pain in his lower back and legs, could be back bowling within six weeks.

Reid was not available for comment.

Option
"He had no other option but to undergo this operation if he wanted to continue as a fast bowler," Foster said.

"There's no turning the clock back now. What he's done now has to be the right thing and he'll have to work very hard to get himself back to the level he was at," he added.

Meanwhile, Australian selectors are closely monitoring the progress of South African cricket tour rebel fast bowler Carl Rackemann for the fourth Test against the West Indies here starting on Jan 27.

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Bryant finishes strongly

PALM DESERT, Calif., Jan 13, (Reuters): American Brad Bryant birdied four of the final six holes at El Dorado to take a one-stroke lead yesterday after two rounds of the million-dollar Bob Hope Classic golf tournament.

Fred Couples, who led after the first day with a seven-under-par 136 and was tied with fellow-Americans Jim Beneppe and Blaine McCallister for second place.

Americans Tom Kite, Jeff Shuman, Peter Jacobsen, and

Paul Azinger were tied another stroke away at seven-under-par 137.

Bryant, 34, is a 10-year veteran of the Tour. A shoulder injury in 1984 limited him to few tournaments, but in the last half of 1988 his game began to improve.

"I've made an awful lot of birdies the last two days," Bryant said. "I made seven and an eagle yesterday (at Indian Wells in a round of 67) and seven more today."

IOC congress

PARIS, Jan 13, (Reuters): International Olympic Committee (IOC) president Juan Antonio Samaranch yesterday urged French President Francois Mitterrand to support efforts to stage the 1994 IOC centenary congress in Paris.

Samaranch said the organisation of the congress would enhance the privileged position of France and Paris, birthplace of the modern Olympics, in the Olympic movement.

Paris is expected to apply to stage the Summer Games in the year 2000.

Palestinian team begins European tour

ROME, Jan 13, (Reuters): A Palestinian national football side arrived in Italy yesterday to begin a European tour of sporting prowess and diplomacy.

The young amateur side, who have never played in Europe before, hope to persuade the International Olympic Committee to recognise Palestine before the 1992 Olympics and Barcelona.

Diplomatic

But the footballers, aged between 19 and 21, will also have to fulfil a diplomatic role, meeting politicians and attending cultural events.

"Apart from the competitive aspect, this initiative has a clear political significance. It is part of a wide-ranging campaign to show that our people are more than just fighters," the Palestine Liberation Organisation's cultural attaché in Rome, Ammar Namas, said.

The Palestinians have already

won a small victory. After a persuasive telephone call from Italian Football Federation chief Antonio Matarrese to International Federation (FIFA) president Joao Havelange, FIFA agreed to suspend the rule forbidding members from playing against unrecognised sides.

"We hope we have made some contribution towards detente," Italian federation spokesman Antonio Valentini told a news conference. "After ping-pong diplomacy, we now have football diplomacy."

The ruling opened the way for matches next week against youth sides in Empoli and Livorno, as well as games tomorrow against Italian and foreign journalists. Experts say the Palestine side are strongly favoured.

The 24-strong squad of factory hands, students and office workers play for amateur teams in Kuwait, Iraq, Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

"We have only been in training

together properly for three weeks. It is difficult when all play in different countries," Ahmed Afifi, chief of the Tunis-based Palestine Football Federation, told the news conference.

"But we have had some good results against teams in Tunisia." The squad has no members from the Israeli-occupied territories because of the difficulty of travelling and because sporting activity has stopped since the Palestinian uprising began over a year ago.

Relieve
"With the intifada, the Israeli armed forces forbade all sporting initiatives," Palestine Olympic Committee chairman Anwar Abuqishbeh said.

"We want to give some publicity to the situation of Palestinian sport... and to relieve the suffering of our people," he said, adding he had been making requests for Olympic recognition for 11 years, but had received no reply.

He said Palestine already fielded teams which played in Arab tournaments in a variety of sports from basketball to weightlifting.

"We are recognised already by 14 Olympic (national) committees. I'm sure this initiative will help us, because we want to take part in the Olympics."

Although Italy along with most other Western nations has not recognised the Palestinian state proclaimed last year by PLO leader Yasser Arafat, Rome has been sympathetic to the cause.

Organisers of the soccer tour said Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti and his ministry expedited visas and encouraged the visit.

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The UNIVERSAL AMERICAN SCHOOL

Announces the following:

- 1) Re-enrollment for returning students will take place between January 7th and February 8th, 1989.
- 2) Brothers and sisters of returning students who would like to join the school next year are requested to apply between January 7th and February 1st, 1989, as they have priority over new students.
- 3) New student applications will be accepted starting Sunday, January 15th, 1989, at 9:00 a.m.

NOTE: The school may be unable to secure places for its students and their brothers and sisters who do not enroll before February 1, 1989.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Soviet player

LONDON, Jan 13, (Reuters): Sergei Baltacha, the first Soviet soccer international to join an English club, arrived in London today with his sights set on gaining promotion with Second Division Ipswich.

Egypt triumph

CAIRO, Jan 13, (Reuters): Egypt beat Finland 2-1 (half-time 1-1) in a friendly international soccer match today. Scores: Egypt — Hisham Abdel-Rasul (70th minute) and Khaled Eid (80th minute). Finland — Jari Rantanen (42nd minute).

Terry Marsh

LONDON, Jan 13, (AP): Terry Marsh, the former world junior-welterweight champion who quit the ring 16 months ago when he was diagnosed as an epileptic, must undergo a further test before British boxing officials will consider giving him the go-ahead to make a comeback.

George Foreman

ROCHESTER, New York, Jan 13, (AP): Former heavyweight champion George Foreman will continue his comeback Jan 26 with a 10-round fight against Mark Young, a Miami boxer who was a one-round knockout victim of Mike Tyson.

Buddy McGirt

NEW YORK, Jan 13, (AP): Buddy McGirt, returning to the ring for the first time since losing the International Boxing Federation junior welterweight title to Meldrick Taylor last September, stopped Manuel DeLeon of the Dominican Republic at 29 seconds of the sixth round last night.

Girardelli wins

KITZBUHEL, Austria, Jan 13, (AP): Austrian-born Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg conquered a tricky Hahnenkamm course today as he took the famed downhill World Cup race here.

Pele Cup

SAO PAULO, Jan 13, (Reuters): World Cup soccer heroes of the past such as Franz Beckenbauer, Geoff Hurst, Roberto Rivellino and Paolo Rossi are to reunite for the Pele Cup starting here on Sunday.

Jock Wallace

LONDON, Jan 12, (Reuters): Jock Wallace, whose numerous managerial posts have included spells with Glasgow Rangers, Hearts, Leicester and Spanish club Sevilla, yesterday took over as boss of Colchester, bottom of the English Fourth Division.

Title fight

BANGKOK, Thailand, Jan 13, (AP): Thailand's Khaojai Galaxy, the World Boxing Association's junior bantamweight champion, and No. 4 challenger Chang Tae-II of South Korea declared themselves fit today for their upcoming title fight.

Canadian inquiry

TORONTO, Jan 13, (Reuters): Ben Johnson's disgrace over drugs at the Seoul Olympics has done more to focus international action against the use of illegal drugs in sports than any other event, a government official testified at a Canadian inquiry yesterday.

Top coach

NASHVILLE, Tennessee, Jan 13, (AP): Don Nehlen has been voted major-league football Coach of the Year by his fellow coaches for leading West Virginia to the first perfect regular season in its 96-year football history.

OMAN AND QATAR PLAY TO GOALLSS DRAW IN QUALIFIER

Kuwait hold on to edge UAE

KUWAIT overcame a spirited challenge from United Arab Emirates in the second half of their Asian Group Three qualifying match, for the 1990 World Cup soccer tournament in Italy, to win 3-2 at the Sabah Al Salem Stadium yesterday.

Kuwait, who beat Pakistan 1-0 in their first qualifying match last Friday, went on to the defensive from the start of the match. Kuwait's Fahd Al Sayed opened the scoring in the 28th minute of the first half.

UAE tried desperately for an equaliser in the second half but the Kuwait defence stood firm and refused to buckle under pressure. The first half ended 1-0 in Kuwait's favour.

The visitors seemed a different side in the second half and went immediately in search of the equaliser. UAE did not have to wait long with Zuhair Bakheet beating the Kuwaiti goalkeeper in the 51st minute.

Kuwait again broke the deadlock when Salah Al Hassawi put his team ahead in the 69th minute. The UAE players strongly objected to this goal. The referee, however, overruled UAE protests that Hassawi was offside.

Mario Zagalo, UAE's Brazilian coach, was not satisfied with the referee's decision and started arguing with the referee. The game was held up for nearly five minutes before the special police escorted Zagalo back to the bench.

Bakheet again got the equaliser for UAE five minutes later but his effort was marred by the



The Kuwaiti goalkeeper foils a UAE player's attempt to head the ball into the goal.

rudely he made to the crowd after he had scored his second goal.

Kuwait should have taken the lead again in the 82nd minute but Hassawi failed to connect a pass from Fahd Sayed, with only the goalkeeper to beat from three metres.

Hassawi, however, made amends 30 seconds later when he connected a high pass from Naoum Saad to get his second goal and the winner for Kuwait.

Kuwait did not relax after taking the lead for the third time in the match and attacked their opponents' goal regularly.

UAE's efforts to get an equaliser in the dying minutes came to naught as the Kuwaiti defence held firm.

Lineups:

Kuwait: Khalid Al Shumari, Hmoud Flaiteh, Mahboub Jum'a, Adel Abbas, Adel Mar-

zouq, Fahd Al Sayed, Walid Al Braiki, Abdel Aziz Al Hajeri, Hamad Al Saleh, Salah Al Hassawi, Ali Marawi.

UAE: Khamid Musabbeh, Khalil Ghanem, Mubarak Ghanem, Ibrahim Mir, Nasser Khamis, Abdel Rahman Mohammed, Issa Mir, Zuhair Bakheet, Ali Tani, Adnan Al Taysani, Fahd Khamis.

And in Muscat, Oman held Qatar to a goalless draw today in a qualifying round for the 1990 World Cup.

The home team put up a shoddy performance unlike their 1-1 draw against far superior Iraq on Jan 6, also at Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex.

Qatar's overdependence on their lanky striker Mahmoud Al Souf who helped them to a 1-0 win against Jordan in their earlier qualifying match, failed to open up the game. The three



An action shot of the match. (Photos by Javed Baara)

countries are in the Asia Group One.

Qatar had possession of the ball most of the time in the first half but failed to stretch the Oman keeper Yusuf Obaid.

Qatar earned three corners against none by Oman in the first half as the ball-play was restricted in the midfield.

Oman succeeded to a certain extent in absorbing the Qatar attacks. The big Qataris also resorted to rough play against their junior and shorter rivals but the Saudi referee Abdullah Nasser kept firm control. He handed out warnings to Saleh Mohammed Al Mohammadi of Qatar and Ahmed Khamis of Oman for dangerous play.

The Omanis played a better game in the second half and repeatedly put the visitor's goal under pressure.

Oman's West German coach

Karl Heinz Heddergott was not happy with the team's performance, saying: "The first half was ridiculous and second a little better."

Qatar's 44-year-old Brazilian coach Carlos Alberto said: "It was a good game and we earned a valuable point."

Lineups:

Oman — Yusuf Obaid, Ali Jumrah, Salem Mansour, Aziz Naseeb, Faraj Farash, Mohammed Hadramy, Ahmed Khamis, Mattar Khalifa, Saad Nasser (Nasser Al Hanai 86th minute), Mohammed Ali Hamoud, and Abdullah Hamdan.

Qatar — Younes Ahmed, Mohammed Daham, Yousef Al Adasani, Jassam Al Mehezaa, Jumas Al Johar, Mohammed Al Ammari, Adel Khamis, Fahd Al Kuwari, Mahmoud Al Soufi, Khalifa Khamis, Saleh Mohammed Al Mohammadi.

West Ham knock Arsenal out of Cup

LONDON, Jan 13, (Reuters): A 77th minute goal by West Ham's Leroy Rosenior sent English League leaders Arsenal tumbling out of the English FA Cup on Wednesday.

His ninth goal of the season, which earned the First Division's bottom club a 1-0 win, was one of the few highlights of the third round replay. The match was a pale imitation of the clubs' rousing 2-2 draw on Sunday.

West Ham were content to concede possession, speak up the pressure and catch their opponents on the break. And their plan worked to perfection.

Returned

The goal followed some sloppy work in the Arsenal defence. A cross from Liam Brady was only half cleared and when substitute Gary Strodger returned the ball to the crowded goalmouth, goalkeeper John Lukic and defenders Tony Adams and Lee Dixon stood like statues as Rosenior nipped in to head home.

Everton squeezed into the fourth round at the expense of

Second Division leaders West Bromwich with a goal from Republic of Ireland international Kevin Sheedy four minutes from the end.

Sheedy, who earned Everton a replay by converting a penalty in the 1-1 draw at West Bromwich on Saturday, volleyed into roof of the net from 10 metres after Wayne Clarke had nodded the ball down to him.

Queen's Park Rangers' Northern Ireland international Alan McDonald scored seconds from the end of extra time to force a second replay against Manchester United.

He headed home a cross from substitute Ossie Ardiles just when United looked to have secured a fourth round home date with Oxford United.

Substitute Denzil Graham had put United 2-1 ahead 14 minutes into extra time with a goal laid on by another substitute, David Wilson.

Rangers scored first through Mark Stein in the 57th minute. Tony Gill, playing in place of injured England captain Bryan Robson, equalised after 75 min-

utes. Meanwhile, Coventry, embarrassed victims of Minor League Sutton United in the FA Cup last weekend, hope to erase that nightmare when they visit Sutton's next Cup targets Norwich in the League tomorrow.

John Sillett's side need to bounce back quickly and an away victory over the team who led the First Division for nearly three months would go some way to repairing the damage.

Coventry will draw encouragement from Norwich's mediocre home record. They have won only four of their 11 League games at Carrow Road but are still second in the table and will go back on top if they beat Coventry and leaders Arsenal lose at Everton.

Intriguing

Everton's recent improved League form has added extra spice to what is always an intriguing fixture and Arsenal would be happy to repeat the 2-1 victory they achieved at Goodison Park last season.

Third-placed Millwall, who

have halted their slight decline with three successive wins, will relish taking on Manchester United at Old Trafford but Sheffield Wednesday, beaten in their last four League games, are unlikely to view fourth-placed Liverpool's visit with equal enthusiasm.

Aston Villa are also in need of one or two good League results after slipping to 16th. They are at home to second-from-bottom Newcastle, whose Belfast-born goalkeeper, Tommy Wright is likely to be called into the firing line following Dave Beasant's departure to Chelsea.

After successive defeats by Arsenal and Second Division Bradford, mid-table Tottenham will be hoping that midfielder Paul Gascoigne recovers from his ankle injury in time for Sunday's televised game at home to Nottingham Forest, who have won their last four matches and scored 12 goals in the process.

Manchester United, ninth in the First Division, are almost certain to be without Robson against Millwall.

Belgium and Netherlands in semifinals

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands, Jan 13, (AP): Belgium and the Netherlands yesterday reached the semifinals of the inaugural Indoor Soccer World Championship and face Brazil and the United States respectively.

Belgium edged the host nation 2-1 in Group 1 but because Hungary lost to Italy 3-1, the Netherlands gained a spot in tomorrow's semifinals.

Decided

The United States continued its string of upsets, beating Brazil 5-3 in a match that decided the Group 2 winner. It also earned the United States the right to play the runner-up from the other group. Paraguay beat Argentina 4-3 to avoid finishing bottom of the group.

Both the US and Brazilian teams qualified for the semifinals on Wednesday and decided to rest several players for Saturday. The final is on Sunday at the 7,000-capacity Ahoy Hall in this city.

LONDON, Jan 13, (Reuters): England's cricket rulers look ready to bow to international pressure on the issue of sporting links with South Africa which at the moment threatens their Test playing future.

The prospect of a climbdown emerged today in a report from the English Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) to the 17 English first-class playing countries.

The impression was reinforced later when TCCB chairman Raman Subba Row talked of the possibility of agreeing to a suggestion that senior players, who insist on maintaining sporting links with South Africa, be banned for four years.

Subba Row said: "The time has come to try to get this matter out of our system. I would rather have no bar at all. But if we have to have a disqualification period then all I can say is that four years are better than five."

Personally

Subba Row stressed that no deals had been done with any overseas board, but he added: "I personally feel a four-year ban would be acceptable to the West Indies."

The TCCB's powerful executive and international committees outlined their views in the no punches pulled three-page report to the 17 counties, who must make a decision at a special meeting at the Oval next Thursday.

Subba Row stressed today England's stance had not yet been adopted in advance of the crucial International Cricket Conference (ICC) meeting at Lord's on Jan 23 called to decide what to do about cricketers playing or coaching in South Africa.

But he said: "Something is definitely going to happen at that ICC meeting on Jan 23. Of that there is no doubt."

"What we have to try to do is minimise the damage and discomfort to ourselves."

England have faced mounting pressure over the last decade to outlaw individuals who maintain sporting links with South Africa. But they have always resisted, saying players should be free to

seek work where they want and cricket selectors must be able to pick whoever they like.

But the TCCB is now convinced that the majority of ICC members are determined to force the issue on Jan 23.

The problem was put in sharp focus when India effectively cancelled England's winter tour last October by refusing entry to Graham Gooch and seven other players with South African links.

Then a substitute tour to New Zealand, scheduled to start next month, was called off when Pakistan refused to take part in a triangular one-day series over the same issue.

The letter sent from the TCCB this week said: "Board members should be aware of the financial consequences of a break-up of the family of cricket. County clubs depend crucially on the current international programme."

The letter continued: "It has been said that England might manage perfectly well with a degree of isolation and that in any event this would not come about because other Test playing countries need England more than England needs them."

"This is almost certainly a fallacy."

Contact

The document then outlined what TCCB officials believed may be decided on Jan 23 — any cricketer aged over 19 having sporting contact with South Africa after April 1 would be ineligible for international cricket, home or away, for four years.

Subba Row said: "We have been in a no-win situation for 10 years. We still feel our blokes should be free to play in South Africa as individuals but we now find the situation that if we continue to pick them for England something is going to happen to international cricket."

Some cricket sources fear that if England do not accept bans — to satisfy principally West Indies, India and Pakistan — they could become isolated in the world game with even Australia and New Zealand unable to support them or play them.

Figini comes home first

GRINDELWALD, Switzerland, Jan 13, (AP): Defending champion Michela Figini of Switzerland won her second World Cup downhill ski race in 24 hours, defeating Carole Merle of France today by more than a half-second.

Marie Walliser of Switzerland was third in the race down the new, tough Tschuggen course, at 3,046 metres the longest on the women's circuit.

Figini, 22, was ahead at all intermediate clockings to finish in 1 minute, 55.32 seconds, a half-second faster than her winning time yesterday on the same course. Merle was clocked in

1:55.89. "It was the 13th downhill victory in the five-year career of Figini, the 1984 Olympic champion and winner of the overall World Cup in 1988, when she dethroned Walliser."

It also was the 12th straight victory for the Swiss women this season. There have been 14 races.

Vreni Schneider, the slalom specialist who has won nine races to build a massive overall World Cup lead, did not compete. She suffered from a slight cold early this week and said she wanted to concentrate on the super-G competition and the special slalom scheduled this weekend.

Real win again with last-minute goal

MADRID, Jan 13, (Reuters): A last-minute goal by Ricardo Gallego saw Spanish League leaders Real Madrid to a 2-1 victory over lowly Malaga on Wednesday and kept them two points ahead of Barcelona who cruised to a 4-0 win over Sevilla.

It was the second successive match that Real had squeezed out a victory when it seemed that they would have to settle for a share of the spoils.

Mexican international Hugo Sanchez scored twice in the last two minutes against Elche on

Sunday to give the First Division pacemakers a 4-2 home victory.

Emilio Butragueno gave Real the lead in the 15th minute when he shot against the crossbar and then headed in from the rebound. Malaga equalised five minutes into the second half when Miguel Chendo deflected a long-range effort from Juanito Gomez into his own net.

Easier

Spanish international goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta could not have wished for an easier

night on his 100th appearance for Barcelona.

The Catalans swept into a two-goal lead against Seville with strikes by Julio Salinas in the 22nd minute and Jose Bakero in the 31st.

England striker Gary Lineker added the third with a spectacular overhead kick 20 seconds into the second half and Ator Beguiristain rounded off the scoring in the final minute.

Atletico Madrid took over from Seville in third spot by beating Valladolid 1-0 away.

Ickx allows Vatanen to win rally

PARIS, Jan 13, (Reuters): Ari Vatanen of Finland won the Paris-Dakar rally for the second time today after Belgian driver Jacky Ickx obeyed Peugeot team instructions to let him pass on the final special timed stage.

Peugeot, who have indicated they will not be competing in the event next year, decided six days ago, on the loss of a 10-franc coin, that Vatanen would win the rally. That put an end to the potentially dangerous competition between their two main drivers, who were already way ahead of the rest of the field.

But Ickx, who was in front at that time, accidentally regained the lead yesterday when Vatanen and co-driver Bruno Berglund of Sweden took a wrong turn and lost more than five minutes on the Belgian.

Orders

Ickx led by 20 seconds going into the final special stage of 60 kms but followed orders and allowed Vatanen to get back in front.

"I was told very precisely what I had to do," he said. "I had to wait until he caught up." But Ickx, rally winner in 1983 and moral victor this year in the eyes of most neutral observers, said he was not unhappy with the way the issue was settled.

"I have no problem with what happened," he said. "It's great for the team to finish first and second. The interests of the team are more important than personal interests. That may be unfortunate but it's the way it is



Vatanen (right) and Berglund celebrate their victory with a glass of milk.

everywhere."

Vatanen, who toasted his victory with a glass of milk while Ickx celebrated with champagne, said: "In spite of the way I won, I'm pleased because it's hot and my wife is here."

The Finn, who won the rally in 1987 and was set to repeat his victory last year until his car was stolen, said the Peugeot move may have saved the event from the sort of fatal accidents which have marred it in recent years.

Peugeot have strenuously defended their decision to determine the winner of the controversial rally across the Sahara desert six days before its end, but the coin-tossing incident turned the event into a farce and dented both organisers and motor sports officials.

Honda, who won the motorcycling class through Gilles Laly of France, have also indicated they will not be competing next year.

Edberg and Wilander triumph

ADELAIDE, Australia, Jan 13, (AP): Wimbledon champion Stefan Edberg beat Ivan Lendl 6-4 6-4 today in a Rio International Tennis Challenge match.

Both players are using the round-robin exhibition as a warm-up for the Australian Open which starts at the National Tennis Centre in Melbourne on Monday.

In the second-match today, Mats Wilander edged out Australia's Pat Cash in three sets, 7-5 4-6 7-6.

Recovering from his loss to South Australia's Mark Woodforde on Wednesday night, Edberg dismissed Lendl in just 56 minutes.

Barring upsets, Edberg and Lendl are expected to meet in the semifinals of the Australian Open and today's effort will give the Swede a great psychological boost.

The victory over Lendl puts Edberg into the final of the exhibition event tomorrow night.

Serve

Edberg set up today's win with a virtually flawless display.

He broke Lendl's serve in the fifth game of the first set and held on without any trouble to take the set 6-4.

"I think the key to it was that I served very well tonight," said Edberg.

"The main thing is to gradually build up as you want to be playing your best by the end of the Australian Open."

Despite the loss Lendl, who faces a qualifier in his first match of the Open, was unconcerned.

Canadian TV station may sue Tyson

VANCOUVER, British Columbia, Jan 13, (Reuters): A Canadian television station said yesterday it was considering legal action against Mike Tyson after one of its cameramen found himself locked in tug of war with the heavyweight champion.

British Columbia Television (BCTV) cameraman Mike Timbrell said Tyson wrenched the viewfinder off his camera in a scuffle in the lobby of the hotel Vancouver, where the champion's estranged wife, actress Robin Givens, is filming a movie.

"He was trying to grab my camera and stomp on it," Timbrell told the Vancouver province newspaper. "He grabbed it with one hand and twisted the viewfinder off — that's not supposed to come off."

Timbrell, some 90 pounds (41 kg) lighter than the overweight champion, said he did not give up his camera but dashed into the hotel's revolving doors and across the parking lot to get away from Tyson.

"The doorman was holding



Mike Tyson

him back because he was trying to come after me," said Timbrell, who was not hurt in the Wednesday night incident.

According to witnesses, the 22-year-old Tyson also ripped a camera out of the hand of a Vancouver Sun newspaper photographer and hurled it across the floor.

Tyson, who is supposed to be in Las Vegas training for next month's title fight with Briton Frank Bruno, suddenly left camp

unexpectedly on Wednesday. A story in the New York Post said Tyson failed to show up at Taco's ringside gym where trainer Aaron Snowell was waiting with two sparring partners on Wednesday afternoon.

By yesterday morning, a BCTV spokesman told Reuters the station was considering legal action against Tyson.

"They're definitely going to go for costs for damage to the camera," said a spokesman, who said a whole new camera would cost around \$50,000.

Vancouver actor Dale Wilson said all was calm on the 14th floor set where Givens was filming.

"It's a credit to Robin. She's a consummate professional. You would never know from working with her that she's under any stress at all," Wilson said.

Tyson and Givens, 24, split after eight months of marriage and are in the process of finalising a divorce settlement. The two were seen together twice in December — once in New York

and once in California at a horror film.

Meanwhile, Terry Lawless, Bruno's manager, said that the absence of trainer Kevin Rooney from Tyson's corner could be the key to his fighter winning the title on February 25 in Las Vegas.

"Kevin has been with Mike from the beginning," Lawless told Reuters following Bruno's first ring workout on Wednesday. "He isn't the type to back down, to say just the things a fighter wants to hear, and you need someone in your camp who can fulfil that need."

Comments

Tyson fired his long-time trainer last month because he was upset with Rooney's public comments about the champion's personal life.

Bruno's camp, meanwhile, has been the picture of solidarity, with Lawless and trainer George Francis keeping a tight reign on the 27-year-old challenger's workout. And Bruno agrees that without Rooney, Tyson is much more vulnerable.